

## Krost Symposium

Putting criminal justice  
on the stand this October

## Taking Flight

Alumnus helps new  
aviation program

## New Faces

TLU welcomes VPAA,  
new faculty members

# TORCH

THE MAGAZINE OF TLU | FALL 2012 EDITION | VOL. 37, NO. 1

1912 **100** 2012  
YEARS  
IN SEQUIN

NAIA + TLU Hall of Fame Quarterback  
Mike Washington (1973-1976)  
with TLC Coach Jim Wacker

## WACKER'S LEGACY AT TLU

How one man left  
a lasting impact on many





“ We are confronted  
by insurmountable  
opportunities. ”



## Welcome to the new look of the Torch!

Our talented and energetic marketing and communications staff has made elevating the look and content of our alumni magazine a high priority, and I hope you are pleased with their work. Our goal is to deliver stories that will inform, entertain and keep you engaged with Texas Lutheran University. I think this issue hits the mark. Inside we recall one of the great legacies of TLC, the legendary coach and teacher Jim Wacker. You also will be moved by the life journey of fellow alumnus Matt Grones '89. The features on this year's Krost Symposium, our nationally recognized Center for Servant Leadership, and the launch of TLU's first Master of Accountancy degree will give you a feel for what is happening on campus. You also will meet our new Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Debbie Cottrell, and seven new professors who joined the faculty this year.

My first year at Texas Lutheran was easily the most satisfying and productive I have experienced in my 15 years as a university administrator. This issue chronicles the impressive list of noteworthy events and positive change that occurred over the past year: the construction of Centennial Hall, the transition to new senior leadership, bold changes in our academic programs, recognition of TLU as a "Great College to Work For," joining a new athletic conference, excellent enrollment and retention, and more. This year also saw the first steps toward a transformed campus with facilities that will support our outstanding programs in music, the fine arts and intercollegiate athletics.

Perhaps the most important development is an intangible, but I believe real, sense of growing confidence and enthusiasm. The years ahead are filled with opportunities to build on that momentum, but also no small measure of risk. These are times that will challenge all of us, and help us recall the words of the iconic comic strip character, Pogo: "We are confronted by insurmountable opportunities."

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stuart Dorsey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Stuart Dorsey  
President

# TORCH

The Magazine Of Texas Lutheran University

Vol. 37, No. 1

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
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Torch is a semiannual publication by the Texas Lutheran University Marketing office. Inquiries and submissions should be directed to the editorial staff at [torch@tlu.edu](mailto:torch@tlu.edu). AlumNotes submissions and change of address may be sent to the Alumni Relations office at [alumni@tlu.edu](mailto:alumni@tlu.edu)



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legacy at TLU



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Students' reaction to TLU's new logo and tagline was both positive and energetic, channeling into a race to get T-shirts with the new logo.

# A Brand New Day

*“Learn Boldly. Live to Inspire” more than a tagline — it’s the essence of TLU*

*“Each student really matters as an individual.”*

*“I didn’t know I was smart until I came to TLU.”*

*“Students here don’t realize how good they are. They amaze themselves.”*

*“We do a good job of taking students who are good and turning them into something amazing.”*

These are some of the comments TLU’s Marketing and Communications office heard when they conducted several focus groups with faculty, staff and students to discuss a rebranding initiative. These discussions resulted in the development and launch of a new logo and tagline, “Learn Boldly. Live to Inspire,” for TLU in April.

“The new logo and tagline highlight TLU’s mission to help students of varying backgrounds, talents and goals discover their unique worth and their vocation,” says Sarah Story, Vice President for Marketing and Communications.

“Our brand research project, initiated a year ago, delivered needed clarity on our brand personality, strengths and values,” says TLU President Dr. Stuart Dorsey. “We discovered who we are today, but even more important, who we want to be as we continue to grow.”

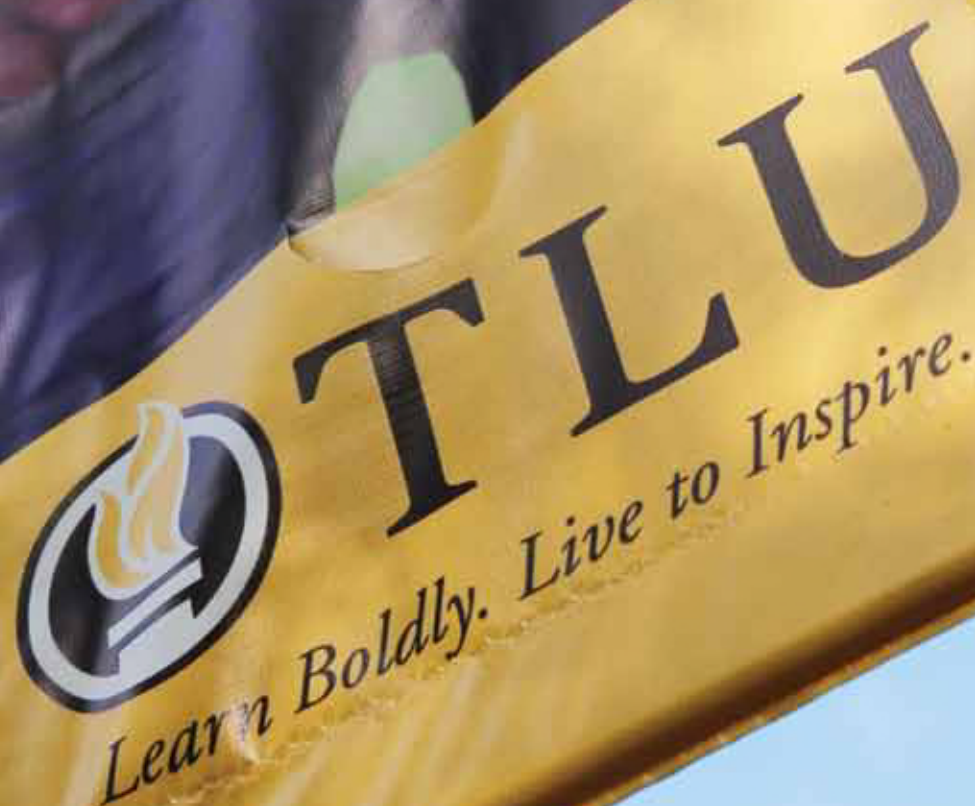
The logo and tagline were unveiled in an exciting new video for the university. The video focuses on the passionate spirit and dynamic heart that beats collectively within the university.

“We are excited about three storytelling campaigns we’re creating to capture the essence of the TLU brand and experience,” explains Story. “Our ‘I am TLU’ will focus on current students while ‘Live to Inspire’ will highlight our alumni and the fascinating and inspiring things they are doing with their TLU degrees. Our third campaign is called ‘Got Passion?’ and is the brainchild of Judy Hoffmann, TLU alumna and associate professor of geography. The Got Passion? campaign highlights the individual passions, hobbies and interests of TLU faculty and staff. It’s a great way for the campus community to get to know each other on a personal, as well as professional, level.”

“We have faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends who live the TLU brand every day,” says Story. “We are focused on telling their stories in a way that promotes the identity, image and visibility of the TLU brand. We believe we are unique and we are excited about creating a strategic marketing initiative that will promote that uniqueness in a very competitive marketplace.” ■

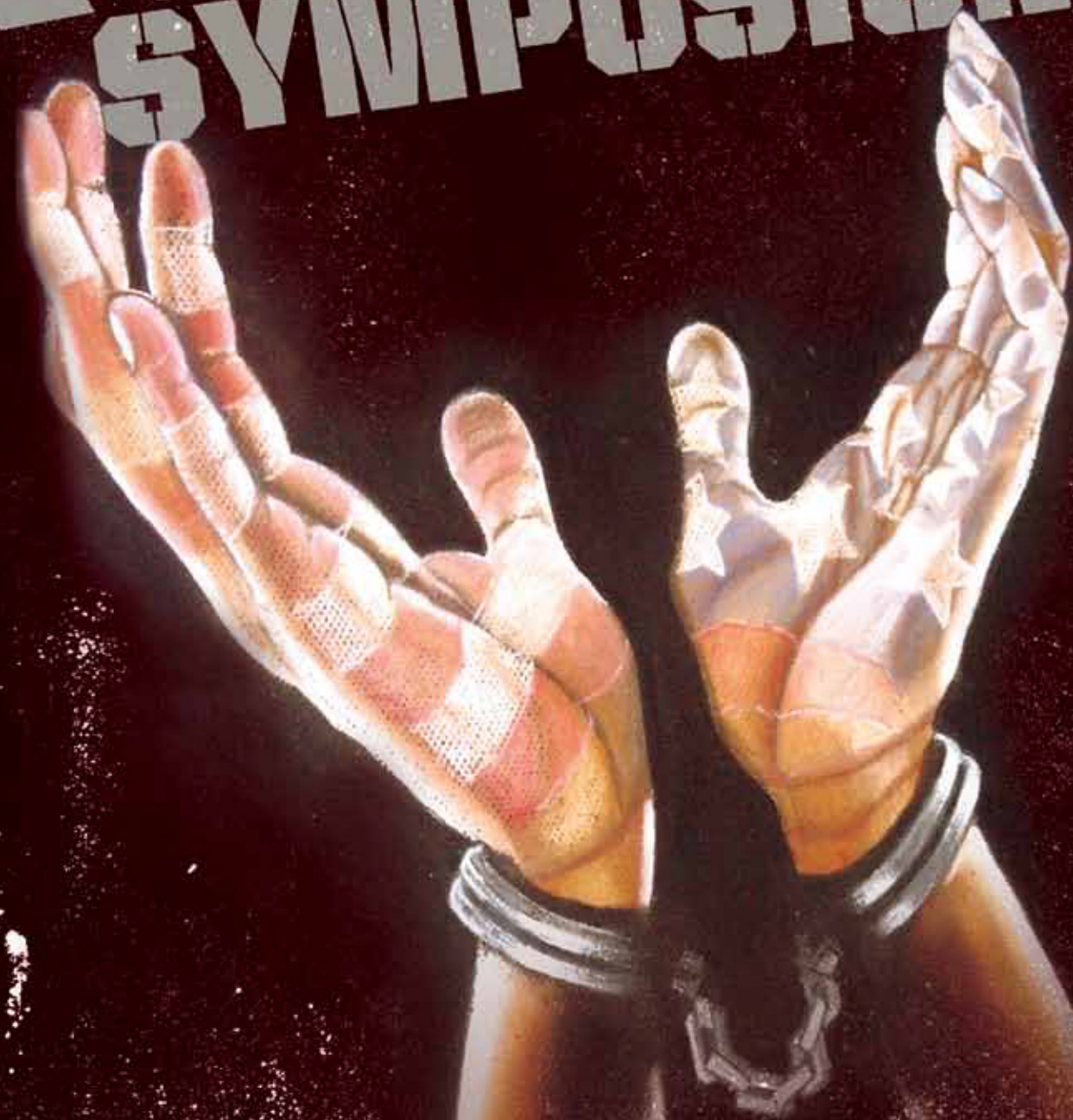


The student experience is proudly displayed on a series of light pole banners across the TLU campus.





# KROST 2015 SYMPOSIUM



ABOVE: *We Too Sing America* by Ritchie Weatherspoon, incarcerated artist for Safe Streets Art Foundation.



# PUTTING JUSTICE ON THE STAND

By Jenni M. Loer

**E**ver since 9/11, the United States has existed in a perpetual state of heightened security.

Terrorism, immigration and the war in the Middle East drew attention away from the undeniable security risk right in America's own backyard: the release of ex-convicts into society. But before delving into the issues of releasing this disenfranchised population, the issue of the overwhelming numbers of their arrests, imprisonment and convictions must be addressed.

Set for October 1 through 5, this year's Krost Symposium, titled "Unlocking the Future: From Mass Incarceration to Restorative Justice," presents criticisms of the current criminal justice system and discusses how prisoners can become functioning members of society upon release.

With the highest population of prisoners on the globe, mass incarceration is a fitting term for the U.S.'s 2.4 million prisoners. With only five percent of the world's population, the U.S. incarcerates nearly 25 percent of its inmates. Beyond the sheer numbers, the demographics of prisoners are what many critics cite in terms of mass incarceration.

When Krost Symposium keynote speaker Michelle Alexander considers the overwhelming number of prisoners in the U.S., she focuses on the disproportionate percentage of minorities in prison. In her book *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*, Alexander describes the "War on Drugs" as a "comprehensive and well-disguised system of racialized control that functions in a manner strikingly similar

to Jim Crow." In the two decades following the onset of the War on Drugs in 1983, African-Americans were imprisoned 26 times more, with Latino admissions 22 times higher and white incarcerations only 8 times greater. Despite whites being the majority drug users and dealers nationwide, three quarters of drug incarcerations were black or Latino.

Dr. Doris Marie Provine, author of *Unequal Under the Law: Race in the War on Drugs* and Krost speaker, echoes the racist beginnings of such criminal policies leading to a prison boom with dramatically more damaging effects on the African-American population than on whites. Provine cites the courts' need for "intentional discrimination" in order to adjust policy to truly give equal protection of law guaranteed in the constitution.

Both books bring to light a harrowing statistic that the U.S. imprisons a larger percentage of its black population than South Africa did during the height of Apartheid. Alexander points out that while Obama's election in 2008 as the first black president seemed like a triumph over racial discrimination, it merely masked what colorblindness meant in terms of mass incarceration.

American society also struggles with marginalized groups outgrowing their minority status, such as the Latino population, which has experienced rapid growth in the past decades in part due to immigration. Dr. Cecilia Menjivar, co-editor of *Latinas/os in the United States: Changing the Face of America*, will discuss the criminalization of immigrants during this year's symposium.

Along with the War on Drugs came tough on crime policies enabling law enforcement to arrest and prosecute suspects for more and lesser nonviolent crimes with elongated minimum sentencing and fewer opportunities for parole. These new policies packed the prisons, causing huge increases in spending under the guise of a safer America. According to the American Civil Liberties Union, Texas' spending on public safety and corrections grew 223 percent to \$2.4 billion from 1985 to 2005.

To quell prison overcrowding and spending, many state prisons have revised mandates to allow county prisons to detain a wider variety of criminals instead of transferring them to state facilities. Another option would allow more prisoners out on parole, which could account for 10 to 15 percent of inmates no longer considered a threat to society.

Approximately 95 percent of all prisoners will be released, with 650,000 being released from state and federal prisons each year according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics in 2002. Many inmates are at risk of re-arrest due to inadequate services and opportunities to those still struggling with substance abuse, lack of adequate education and job skills, and mental health issues. The recidivism rate, or the percentage of prisoners who "relapse" and are re-incarcerated, is about 41 percent within one year and two-thirds within three years.

Since nearly half of all inmates are repeat offenders, reducing recidivism will keep the \$24,000 annual cost per prisoner down and ultimately reduce the \$5.1 billion bill for new prison construction. In 2007, Texas scrapped its \$2 billion plan to build eight new prisons

*continued on next page*



for a \$241 million program for community treatment and supervision.

In 2008, released prisoners were literally offered a second chance with the Second Chance Act aimed at reducing recidivism. The act authorizes federal grants to government agencies and nonprofit organizations to provide employment assistance, housing, substance abuse treatment, family programming, mentoring, victim's support and other related services. To manage and monitor the implementation of this act, the National Offender Reentry Resource Center was established.

Although little data is available for organizations utilizing funds through the Second Chance Act, state funded programs in Kansas aimed at helping prisoners re-integrate through education, drug treatment and subsidized housing offer a glimpse of the possibilities of restorative justice. Between 2007 and 2009, the recidivism rate for ex-offenders dropped 16 percent, but quickly spiked again when state cutbacks closed the programs.

Many nonprofit and government agencies offer the resources, support and therapy needed during those critical first 14 months of re-entry, providing many anecdotes for reduced recidivism. Ministry services are among the many approaches to prisoner rehabilitation, restorative justice or the more elusive redemption.

David Doerfler, founder of Concentric Journeys and a former Lutheran pastor, confronts crime head-on by facilitating mediations between victims and offenders. Theologian, minister and author of *Reading the Bible With the Damned*, Dr. Bob Ekblad, interprets scripture to help inmates find grace. Harley Eagle, co-coordinator of MCC-Canada's Indigenous Work program, promotes restorative justice and healing

through a discussion involving the spiritual, emotional, physical and intellectual realms. Each approach will be presented during the week of Krost Symposium along with an opportunity to hear personal stories from formerly incarcerated guests.

As an Evangelical Lutheran Church in America associated institution, TLU will provide a constructive and informed forum in which members will have a unique opportunity to discuss the ELCA Criminal Justice Task Force's Social Statement on Criminal Justice with Dr. Derek Nelson.

As many criminals reach the end of their sentences, neither the released prisoners nor the society in which they are to enter is prepared for the integration. Prisoners without re-entry preparation are likely to be at a larger disadvantage when they are released than when they began their sentences. Many return to poverty stricken areas with high crime rates, homelessness and few job opportunities—home to a disproportionate number of minorities, creating communities of marginalized populations. Without a plan and assistance to become productive members of society, prisoners are far more likely to become repeat offenders, entering into a perpetual cycle of arrest and imprisonment.

Studies indicate programs that assist ex-cons in attaining education, housing and jobs greatly reduce recidivism, but reform for a uniform restorative justice policy throughout the nation's corrections system is lacking. Despite the cause of disproportionately minority-heavy mass incarceration, the ex-prisoner population must also be part of the discussion to a safer America and improving the criminal justice system at this year's Krost Symposium, *Unlocking the Future: From Mass Incarceration to Restorative Justice*. ■

FOR A COMPLETE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS  
FOR KROST SYMPOSIUM 2012, VISIT  
[WWW.TLU.EDU/KROST](http://WWW.TLU.EDU/KROST).

“Approximately 95 percent of all prisoners will be released, with 650,000 being released from state and federal prisons each year.”

## CRIME & CREATIVITY

The tinny zip of a harmonica echoing off the concrete corridor of the cellblock, albeit stereotypical, might be the inception of restorative justice.

Exonerated prisoner, Dennis Sobin, founded Safe Streets Arts Foundation after developing his own work—writing prose and mastering the guitar—while incarcerated and witnessing firsthand its ability to restore the spirits of inmates.

In his book, *Art on the Inside: Understanding and Helping Imprisoned Artists*, Sobin explains, “An artist in prison changes the dynamics of incarceration. He ignores his environment, using art to create an entirely separate world.”

Safe Streets, championing “rehabilitation and victim restitution through the arts,” receives works from men and women in prisons across America, which are mounted and available for sale. Prisoners receive up to 50 percent of the sales price and profits go towards arts supplies for prisoners, rehabilitation programs and victim support. Visual artists in prison have the opportunity to exhibit in Safe Streets annual Justice Arts Show at Washington, D.C.'s Kennedy Center.

This year's Krost Symposium materials will feature a piece from Safe Streets, *We Too Sing America* by Ritchie Weatherspoon, a prisoner at Iona Maximum Correctional Facility in Michigan. Weatherspoon, who had been incarcerated for 20 years when he created this work, is a self-taught prison artist. He works in soft pastels and incorporates justice themes in his works whenever possible and says, “Without art, I would be just another prison number, a silenced voice behind prison walls.”

Safe Streets is a nonprofit organization funded by the National Endowment for the Arts that incorporates the Prisons Foundation and Victims Foundation and sponsors Prison Art Gallery. ■

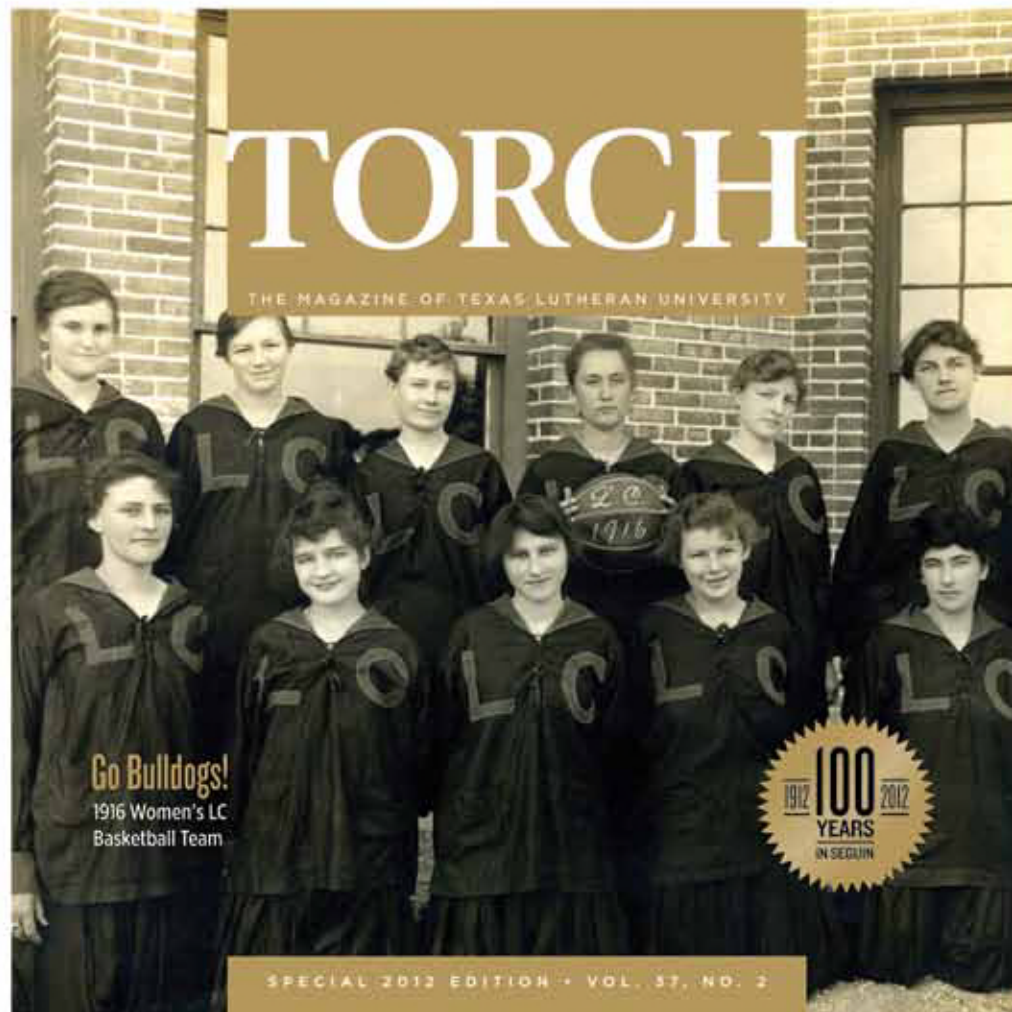
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT  
THE SAFE STREETS ARTS FOUNDATION,  
VISIT [WWW.SAFESTREETSARTS.ORG](http://WWW.SAFESTREETSARTS.ORG).



# TORCH

*Special Edition | 1912-2012*

A BOOK CHRONICLING 100 YEARS OF TEXAS LUTHERAN HISTORY



NOW AVAILABLE AT THE TLU BOOKSTORE



"YOU'VE GOT TO BELIEVE."

"LOOK AT YOU. LOOK AT YOU!"

"UNBELIEVABLE."

"REMARKABLE."

"GEEZ-O-PEEZ."

# THE WACK

Referred to as "Wackerisms," the man behind the catchy phrases, infectious enthusiasm, booming voice and strong handshake that would literally move your body from side to side had a gift for making everyone feel important and part of the team. When one player asked him why TLU had over 120 players on the team, Head Coach Jim Wacker simply said, "Because I want to give everyone the chance to play the greatest game in the world."

And he did.







By Sarah Story

# ER LEGACY

When you talk to the men who played on Texas Lutheran's 1974 and 1975 NAIA Division II Championship teams, you begin to understand the impact one coach had on their lives — both then and now.

Enthusiasm, motivation, leadership, compassion, character and quirky are the words his former players use to describe him. "We were all influenced by Coach Wacker. Everyone found themselves acting a little differently because of him. I thank God all the time that I played for Coach Jim Wacker," says TLU Athletic Director Bill Miller who played on the 1974 and '75 teams.

CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM  
NAIA DIVISION II  
1975





## JIM WACKER WAS THE SON OF A LUTHERAN MINISTER AND A MAN OF STRONG CHARACTER AND PRINCIPLES.

“Coach Wacker gained respect with a very simple method: by his personal example, by how he lived his life,” says D.W. Rutledge, Executive Director of the Texas High School Coaches Association and one of the team captains for the 1975 Bulldog championship team. “He showed us how to be a good father and good husband. He had a genuine care and concern for others. He worked harder, longer and smarter. He was by far the most enthusiastic person I have ever worked with.”

From 1971 to 1975, Wacker coached the Bulldogs to a 38-16 mark and a record of 28 to 5 in his final three seasons. Wacker holds the school record for best career winning percentage among football coaches and he shares the Texas Lutheran mark for most national titles won (two) with volleyball coach Susan Duke.

The Bulldogs of the Wacker era set numerous school records for career, season and single-game feats. Today, 23 records still stand including a school record 17-game winning streak that stretched from 1973 to 75. Wacker’s Bulldogs were also members of several prominent All-American squads: Walter Bartosh, Phil Dunne, Jerry Ellis, Joe Froelich, Willie Gipson, Royce Johnson, Dennis Ortmann, Kevin Ott, Jim Perdue, D.W. Rutledge, Bobby Sagebiel, Walter Ulbrecht, Mike Washington, and David Wehmeyer all earned All-American honors while playing for Wacker.

The Wacker Bulldogs also share a similar love and respect for the man who led them to multiple victories. “His enthusiasm and vision were the reasons everything happened,” says Miller. “He believed in his vision that Texas Lutheran could win a national championship. Every day, you could tell he was a man on a mission and you bought into it. He was a great recruiter.”

Wacker’s ability to woo talented players set the stage for the most successful time in Bulldog football history. “It was a combination of the right people at the right time,” says Mike Washington, NAIA Hall of Fame quarterback for the Bulldogs from 1973 to 76. “Coach Wacker recruited all of these kids here at the same time and they all believed in the same vision.”

Washington was one of Wacker’s key recruits as he traveled up I-35 looking for a quarterback. His first stop was Travis High School in Austin. After detailing what he was looking for, the coaches and counselors at Travis didn’t have the right guy, but they knew Johnson High School did. “You need to meet Mike Washington,” they told him as they sent him down the road to Johnson. The rest was history. “I’ve never seen another coach like him. The Wackerisms, the ability to laugh at himself — he didn’t mind being different and quirky. He embraced it.”

D.W. Rutledge, or “D-Dubbs” as Wacker called him, has a similar recruiting story. Rutledge dropped out of school after his dad passed away the summer of his senior year. He married his high school sweetheart and got a job driving a truck for Budweiser. “My high school coach told Coach Wacker about me and Wacker talked me into going to Seguin to look at the college. I felt an immediate connection to him. His enthusiasm was contagious,” said Rutledge.

Rutledge joined the Bulldogs, which was “the best thing that could have happened to me.” Rutledge played for Wacker at TLU, coached at Judson High School in Converse and eventually joined

Wacker again and coached with him at North Dakota State and Southwest Texas State. Rutledge is one of the most successful coaches in Texas high school football history, winning four state championships while at Judson High School. “To this day, I believe he became that father figure I needed after my dad passed away. He led by the way he lived his life — as a great husband and a great dad to his three boys. It was a blessing for me to be around him.”

Known as the “Wacker Multiplier” in a paper penned by TLU’s Professor of Biology Dr. Bill Squires, Wacker’s coaching philosophy and approach to goal setting and team building is still around and going strong via the men he influenced. “He always coached to help his players be better men first and better athletes second,” says Rutledge. “He spent as much or more time teaching character, values and attitude than the physical aspects of the game. He knew that he could use the platform of sports to teach those things.”

Wacker left TLU after the 1975 championship game against California Lutheran and went on to a successful coaching career at North Dakota State, Southwest Texas State (now Texas State University), Texas Christian and Minnesota. He was 42-8 in four years at Southwest Texas and won two NCAA Division II national titles with the Bobcats. From 1974 to 1982, his win-loss record was 88-18-1. During this nine-year period, he had more college football wins than any coach in the nation.

“My brother Neal, my little brother Michael, and I all played for Coach Wacker,” says Miller. “Michael was the quarterback on the Southwest Texas ’81 team. In 2003, we found out that Coach Wacker’s cancer was terminal so we went to visit him at his home in San Marcos. We didn’t know what to expect when we went to the door. To our surprise, he greeted us at the door and screamed, ‘Billy!’ Even up to the end, he had a zest for life and a zest for athletics.”

That zest has filtered down to the Wacker Bulldogs as they credit Coach Wacker for the men they are today. “We learned how to win and compete with the big guys,” says Phil Dunne, one of the team captains for the 1975 championship team and President of Advanced Container Systems, Inc. in Houston. When Dunne decided to start his own private company, he relied on the skills he learned from Wacker. “It’s scary to start your own company but I knew I had the will to win and the ability to compete. I knew I wouldn’t give up. He taught me that.”

Washington also credits Wacker for his personal and professional accomplishments. “He taught me about paying attention to the details,” recalls Washington. “I could go into a game and visualize the entire game before it started, going through the various options and plays. I still rely on these skills today to visualize different options and pay closer attention to the details.”

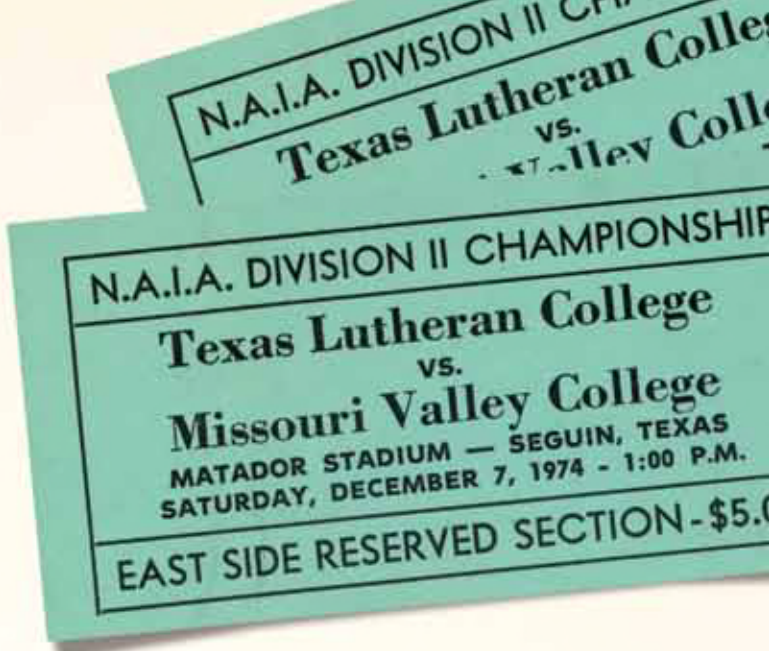
Many members of the 1974 to 75 Bulldog teams have stayed in touch and get together for annual football reunions. Whether they played in every game or just a few, they all share the same thing — Coach Wacker made each and every one of them feel part of the game and stayed true to his pledge that everyone should have the chance to play the greatest game in the world. “He allowed everyone to feel like a contributing member of the team,” says Washington.

A husband, father, coach, mentor and friend, Jim Wacker leaves a lasting legacy that brings grown men to tears. As Wacker himself said, “Faith, family, friends, fellowship, football. It doesn’t get any better than this!”





*Courtesy of Texas Lutheran, every player on the 1974 and 1975 NAIA National Championship team received a commemorative gold watch.*



*Tickets to the 1974 NAIA Division II National Championship game. TLC 42, Missouri Valley 0.*



*Left to right: David Wehmeyer, Coach Jim Wacker, Buzzy Vizsa, D.W. Rutledge.*



*Bill Miller's 1974 NAIA Division II Championship football ring*



*Members of Texas Lutheran's 1974 NAIA National Championship team proudly hold the winning banner in one hand and their gold watches in the other.*



# Recollections

*Bulldogs share their personal Coach Wacker stories*

**Bill Miller**  
1973-76

*Member of 1974 and 1975 NAIA-II Football National Championship teams; Big State Conference MVP for TLC baseball in 1975; Coached TLU baseball team to most wins in history*

**Current:**  
*TLU Athletic Director*

“Coach Wacker made it OK to be enthusiastic and to celebrate what you’re doing every day. You didn’t have to be cool and calm all the time. You could be a good football player and a good person and express that by your actions and your words. For me, Coach Wacker’s enthusiasm was contagious. He was the man who always saw the glass half full. His enthusiasm impacted my view on life. My coaching style is directly related to how I was coached by him. Tom Landry was the ultimate coach at the time but you didn’t see him jumping up and down on the sidelines and giving high-fives. Coach Wacker did that. He set the stage for the most successful period in TLU’s athletics history. He promoted the idea that TLU could win a national championship and we did. It was an exciting time to be at TLU.”

**Phil Dunne**  
1973-76

*Team Captain, 1975 Championship Team*

**Current:**  
*President, Advanced Containment Systems, Inc.*

“At the beginning of games, Coach Wacker would have us warm up by playing touch football on the field. We were all over the place, running into each other and having a good time. The other team thought we were nuts, but it loosened us up before the game.”

“He was a character. Everything he did was about motivating his players. We learned how to compete and win against the big guys. At the 1975 championship game against California Lutheran [played in Thousand Oaks, Calif.], the crowd was booing us during our warm-ups before the game. The sports writers picked us to lose by a touchdown or more, but we scored on the first play of the game and won the championship 34-8. Coach Wacker always designed the first play of the game to score a touchdown. He used it to try to break down the other team and it worked.”

**Mike Washington**  
1973-76

*NAIA & TLU Hall of Fame Quarterback 1973-76 Team Captain, 1975 Championship Team*

**Current:**  
*Director of Admissions, University of Texas at Austin*

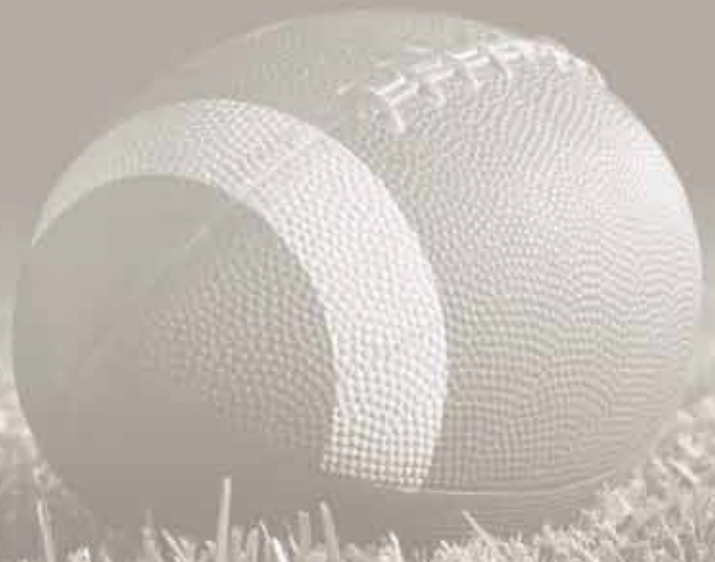
We were going for an undefeated season when we played Bishop College in Dallas as the last game of the ’74 regular season. Bishop had an intimidating team. We were in our locker room and we could hear their team chanting outside of our locker room door. Coach Wacker was talking to us but he could sense that our team was getting intimidated so he went over to a row of lockers and started shaking a locker as loud as he could. All of a sudden, everyone started shaking lockers and making a lot of racket. The other team stopped chanting because they didn’t know what was going on. We walked out of that locker room and the other team parted like the Red Sea. Coach Wacker knew what he needed to do to put us in the right frame of mind to win the game. He was an inspiration for us.”

**D.W. Rutledge**  
1971-74

*Team Captain, 1974 Championship Team Former state championship winning football coach of the Judson Rockets in Converse*

**Current:**  
*Executive Director, Texas High School Coaches Association*

“Wacker was a one-of-a-kind. You knew when he was in the room. When he saw you, he would smile and say in a big voice, ‘Look at you. Look at you!’ I remember when I found out he had cancer. I was working for the coaches association at the time and I was coming home for the weekend and wanted to see him. I remember driving to his house, getting out of my car and walking up the sidewalk. I had a sick feeling in my stomach and I was wondering what I would say to him. He opened the door and said, ‘D-Dubbs, it’s great to see you!’ I was going to his house to lift his spirits and he lifted mine. That’s just how he was. Those of us who had the opportunity to play for him and coach with him have been blessed beyond measure.”







MIKE WACKER  
WITH HIS DAD  
AND BROTHERS  
STEVE (LEFT)  
AND TOM  
(RIGHT).

## Mike Wacker

### Son of Coach Jim Wacker

*Current Head Basketball Coach  
and U.S. History Teacher,  
Judson High School*

“My dad was a person who just touched so many lives,” says Mike Wacker, son of Coach Jim Wacker. “He was only at Texas Lutheran for five years and at Texas State for four years, but he cared so much for the young men he coached.”

The younger Wacker, one of three sons (Mike, Steve, and Tom), grew up watching his dad’s love for people and saw how he wanted to help them reach their goals. “I’m a coach now in large part because of him, his legacy and his example.”

Coach Wacker’s legacy includes a great sense of humor and the ability to laugh at himself. Go to YouTube and enter “Jim Wacker” and you’ll find several videos from the “Jim Wacker Show” from his TCU days. Coach Wacker even began one show with a clip of himself taking a tumble as his team entered the field. “He had the ability to laugh at himself and not take himself too seriously,” says Mike Wacker. “He knew how to live in the moment.”

Inspired by his high school football coach Dennis Tuomi, Coach Wacker saw the impact Tuomi made with his players and was inspired to do the same. After coaching at the high school level, Coach Wacker wanted to follow his dream to coach college football. He applied to colleges all

over the country and even went back to school to get a master’s degree and a Ph.D. to make himself more competitive at the college level. “At that time, very few people in small, liberal arts colleges had doctorate degrees, so my dad spent seven summers getting his Ph.D. in education from the University of Nebraska,” says Mike Wacker. Coach Wacker held a bachelor’s degree from Valparaiso University in Indiana and a master’s degree in geography from Wayne State University in Michigan.

In 1970, TLU President Menn called Jim Wacker and offered him the head football coach position. From 1970-75, Mike Wacker remembers attending TLU football games to cheer on his dad and the Bulldogs. On Monday nights, he remembers combined booster club meetings for Seguin High School and TLU with game clips played on an old film projector. “They would have film of both games – Seguin and TLU – and my dad always had the ‘Big Hit of the Week’. He would play it up really big and everyone lived for it. We would have 200 to 250 people there and they loved it.”

As his biography says, “Coach Jim Wacker was, above all, a coach who changed lives. His trademark hearty laugh and joyful outlook on life was a trait that carried him throughout his coaching career. His care and concern for his players, both on and off the field, had a lasting impact on those who played and coached with him.”



*Preliminary architectural rendering of Bulldog Stadium*

## BUILDING ON THE LEGACY

As TLU remembers a legend and the legacy he’s left behind, a new generation of Bulldogs looks to celebrate and expand on a strong history and tradition of competitive intercollegiate athletics.

A long-standing deficiency, however, has been the absence of an on-campus home for two of TLU’s most storied sports programs, football and track and field.

“Our own students tell us, along with the experience of other small colleges across the country in recent years, that we can expect many benefits of modern, attractive athletics facilities to the overall TLU experience,” says TLU President Dr. Stuart Dorsey.

Dorsey, along with members of the President’s Cabinet and the TLU Board of Regents, have been exploring plans for a 3,500-seat athletics complex to be built in three phases on the TLU campus.

The first phase includes the installation of all-weather field turf for football, an all-weather 400-meter track, stadium lights and scoreboard on the current site of Morck Softball Field. When completed, this facility can immediately be used for Bulldog home football games and track and field meets, using leased temporary bleachers, press box, concession facilities and restrooms. The first phase also includes the construction of a new softball stadium adjacent to Katt-Isbel Baseball Field, a new football practice field and intramural fields, and the installation of lights, exterior fence and a ticket booth at Katt-Isbel Baseball Field.

*“The athletics stadium complex is central to our strategy for growth, and to creating a richer student experience,” says Dorsey.*

*“We have an outstanding opportunity to strengthen the competitive stance of our athletic programs, better serve all of our students, and make a dramatic impact on the attractiveness of our campus.”*



# Empty Bowls

Buy a beautiful, hand-crafted ceramic bowl for \$15, receive a bowl of soup,  
and help bring attention to hunger in our community

## Sunday, November 4, 2012

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. | TLU Campus,  
Jackson Park Student Activities Center



Empty Bowls is an international project to fight hunger, personalized by local artists on a community level. Empty Bowls events are held in cities across the country to support local food-related charities and food banks through monetary donations raised from the sale of hand-crafted, ceramic bowls. For more information, visit [www.tlu.edu/emptybowls](http://www.tlu.edu/emptybowls).



# Partnership for a Better Seguin

By Jenni M. Loer

## July 23 marked the official end of the three-year Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) program at Texas Lutheran University.

Since 2009, the “Partnership for a Better Seguin” sponsored five positions meant to build bridges between local low-income communities and their neighboring university. The program, managed by TLU’s Center for Servant Leadership Director Tim Barr, was part of the AmeriCorps nationwide volunteer program aimed at improving living conditions of communities in poverty.

The Teatro de Artes position worked on developing a summer arts camp with the local nonprofit, as well as community outreach such as a free Spanish class, after-school events and computer literacy classes. In the first two years, the summer camp provided a safe space for children to explore the arts. By the third year, the program had qualified staff with camp experience and a structured curriculum. “Qualitatively, it was a big step forward,” says Barr. Grants and fundraising are expected to support the program and keep enrollment fees low or free for those who qualify.

The community organizing position focused on getting people to talk to their neighbors, develop relationships and work on common projects to improve the neighborhood. One of the main initiatives that united the community was re-establishing public transportation in the neighborhood—300 signatures were collected from community members and TLU students to take to Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG), which used to provide a bus route accessible to the neighborhood.

The Seguin ISD mentoring position arranged for TLU students to mentor at-risk students at local elementary schools. The entire TLU men’s soccer team became mentors for students at Jefferson Elementary School, providing support and someone to talk to about goals and life experiences.

The VISTA grant writing position was able to secure 10 grants totaling approximately \$15,000, and also trained organizations on how to apply for grant funding. Of particular note, VISTA secured funding to help the Wilson Pottery Foundation start a Wilson Pottery museum with original artifacts at Sebastopol House State Historic Site.

The volunteerism coordinator helped organize TLU’s two annual service days, HOT Dogs and Day of the Dogs, and develop partnerships with community organizations. “Our volunteer efforts have grown in their ability to train and send out students to community partners,” says Barr. “We’re finding how to make the most of our resources and use students in effective ways.”

*continued on next page*



TLU students David Soop, Austin Albrecht and Elizabeth Stephens work alongside VISTA volunteer Cheryl De La Cruz to prepare the Blumberg Community garden for planting.



Students in the Freshman Experience classes of Dr. Norm Beck and Dr. Tiffany Sia hosted a back-to-school celebration at Blumberg Park in the neighborhood next to TLU. Students organized face painting, basketball, volleyball and also worked on the community garden. More than 50 residents, mostly children, came for the event.



The most visible impact the VISTA program has had on the community is the transformation of Blumberg Park. A few years ago, the park was a largely unused common space, overgrown and covered in anthills with few trees to offer shade; an uninviting place. The VISTA volunteers held a series of events in the park for neighbors to interact with each other. They painted, planted a community garden and convinced the city to invest in the park by installing a water fountain, sprinklers, a gravel bed for the swings and leveling the ground surrounding the basketball court. "It's a visible and metaphorical example of how getting engaged can transform a community," Barr says.

Although the VISTA program must end, TLU and the Center for Servant Leadership will keep the mission of the VISTA volunteers alive through hiring former VISTA volunteerism coordinator Jessica Mann to the new staff position of Civic Engagement Coordinator. The Center for Servant Leadership will continue to develop relationships with its neighbors and the Seguin community through service projects and outreach. "We're always looking for ways to find a deeper sense of connectedness to the community in a recurring way," says Barr. "We're committed to continuing to partner with the community to build a better Seguin." ■


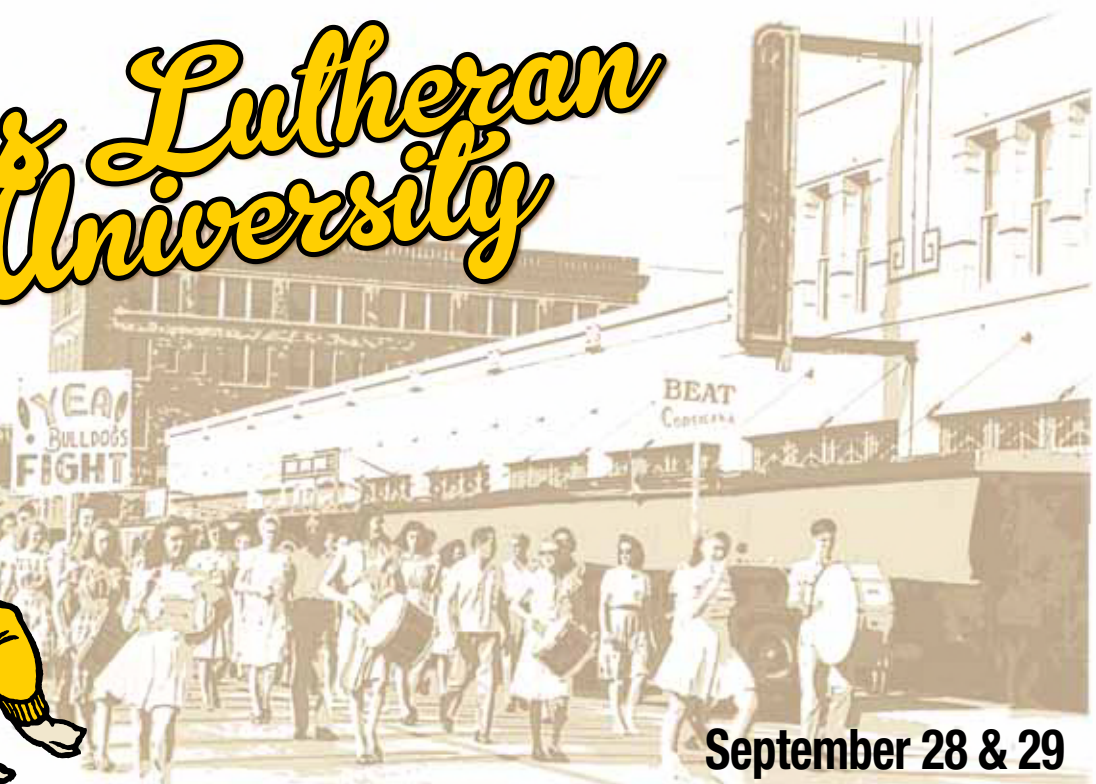


Cris Sanchez, VISTA serving at Teatro de Artes (standing on left), orients students during 2012 Day of the Dogs

“We’re committed to continuing to partner with the community to build a better Seguin.” ■

To learn more about the VISTA Partnership for a Better Seguin and community service resources, visit [www.tlu.edu/campuslife/csl](http://www.tlu.edu/campuslife/csl).

# Texas Lutheran University

September 28 & 29

## 2012 HOMECOMING

For more information and a schedule of events, visit [www.tlu.edu/homecoming](http://www.tlu.edu/homecoming). Follow us on Twitter at [#tluhomecoming](https://twitter.com/tluhomecoming)



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# MICHELE NORRIS

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Host of NPR's *All Things Considered*

Author of *The Grace of Silence: A Memoir*

Award-winning journalist



## Thursday, October 18, 2012

7:30 p.m. | Jackson Auditorium

This event is free and open to the public.  
For more information and upcoming events, visit [www.tlu.edu/guests](http://www.tlu.edu/guests).





TLU's first cohort of the new master's program in accountancy meets with Melanie Thompson to discuss coursework.

# TLU Offers Master's Degree in Accountancy

By Ashlie McEachern

Texas Lutheran University has taken its accounting program to the next level. The very first master's degree in TLU history, the Master of Accountancy program offers current, new and prospective students the chance to earn an advanced degree.

With support from the Board of Regents, faculty and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, TLU is now a master's degree granting institution in accounting.

Every year, local, regional and international firms including the "Big Four" firms—PwC, Ernst & Young, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu and KPMG—interview TLU students. From 2004 to 2010, 96 percent of student interns received job offers from their employers. While this is unusual for a school of TLU's size, it shows the quality of TLU's accounting graduates and the need for a master's program, says Melanie Thompson, associate professor of business administration and economics.

"We already had a quality, five-year program and we knew the master's program would give students a competitive edge in the job field," says Thompson. "We wanted to provide students with the same opportunities other universities were giving in accounting programs. On a career track, an advanced degree helps them. I know sometimes individuals with master's degrees are given preference in career advancement. Additionally, students are set up to pursue a Ph.D. if they like since they have already accomplished their master's."

The mission of the program is to prepare students for successful accounting careers and passing the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) exam. There are two paths to the Master of Accountancy degree. Undergraduate students completing their Bachelor

of Business Administration (B.B.A.) are eligible as are those who already hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited university. Applicants who hold a bachelor's degree not equivalent to a B.B.A. in accounting must take additional courses.

The CPA credentials, partnered with the master's degree, will provide advantages to TLU graduates entering the job market.

Senior business administration major Cassy Gonzales will be part of the first graduating class in May. Gonzales says the fact she will now earn a bachelor's and master's degree in the same time it would have taken to complete the five-year undergraduate program is substantial.

"I came to TLU in the fall of 2008 thinking that I was going to graduate in May 2013 with a bachelor's degree," says Gonzales. "Little did I know I'd have the opportunity to walk away with both my bachelor's and master's degree in the same time frame and cost it would have been if I only obtained my bachelor's. I'm ecstatic to know that I will have a master's degree under my belt when I leave TLU."

While the master's degree will be a personal stepping stone for her, Gonzales would like to see continued commitment to advanced programs at the university.

"I feel that this program is just the start of many more great opportunities to come," says Gonzales. "I hope the time, effort, enthusiasm and determination the business department put into making this possible inspires more positive additions to the advancement of further education at TLU." ■



**ACCORDING TO LINKEDIN,**

Texas Lutheran University has alumni working at all of the "Big Four" accounting firms, as well as local and regional firms. The website also lists students currently employed at companies like Halliburton, Merrill Lynch and H-E-B. LinkedIn is a great tool to connect with fellow alumni, current students and professional contacts. With more than 3,000 members connected to TLU, LinkedIn breaks down statistics based on where people live, where they work and what their career focus is, making it easier to connect with colleagues in your area of interest.

**TLU GRADUATES IN ACCOUNTING INCLUDE:****Jessica Boka '05**

Ernst & Young London  
Capital Markets Manager

**Sara Usry '12**

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu  
Houston  
Auditor

**Brad Wesson '08**

PWC Houston  
Auditor

**Demetrius Hardeman '05**

Criminal Investigations Unit  
IRS Houston  
Auditor

**Shelley Woitena '03**

Padgett Stratemann  
San Antonio  
Tax Manager

**WHAT ABOUT YOU?**

Become a member at [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com) and include TLU on your educational information. Join fellow Bulldogs as they develop their network and help you cultivate yours.



## ***Celebrating the Seguin Centennial | 1912–2012***

AN EXHIBIT CHRONICLING 100 YEARS OF TEXAS LUTHERAN HISTORY



## **OPENING SEPTEMBER 10**

ALUMNI STUDENT CENTER | FIRESIDE LOUNGE



# TLU welcomes new VPAA

By Ashlie McEachern

“Becoming a part of the TLU community—its people, its traditions, its commitment to excellence—is an opportunity of a lifetime for me.”



This July, Texas Lutheran University welcomed Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Debbie Cottrell. As former Provost at William Peace University in Raleigh, N.C., Dr. Cottrell’s vast experiences as a professor, an author and academic administrator make her a terrific asset to TLU.

A native Texan as well as a Baylor and University of Texas at Austin graduate, Dr. Cottrell is familiar with TLU and what it means to be an academic leader at a smaller, liberal arts-based college. In addition to her experience as provost, Dr. Cottrell served as associate dean and director of graduate programs at Smith College. Prior to her role at Smith, she was a professor of history and assistant dean of the faculty at Cottey College.

“Becoming a part of the TLU community—its people, its traditions, its commitment to

excellence—is an opportunity of a lifetime for me,” says Dr. Cottrell. “I am so grateful to be asked to lead the academic enterprise of this significant institution and to have a part in ensuring that its influence and impact continues and grows in the years ahead.”

Having spent her entire career in teaching and academic administration at well-respected, independent colleges, TLU President Dr. Stuart Dorsey says Dr. Cottrell brings considerable experience to her new duties.

“Dr. Cottrell is an excellent fit to lead the faculty and academic programs at Texas Lutheran University as we launch new programs and identify new opportunities for growth,” says Dr. Dorsey. “The TLU faculty recently approved an innovative new general education curriculum that begins this fall, along with the university’s first master’s degree program and a new major

in aviation studies. Dr. Cottrell’s charge will be to work with faculty and administration to implement these new programs and to explore new opportunities for growth, further enhancing TLU’s reputation for academic excellence.”

Committed to maximizing TLU’s potential in all areas, Dr. Cottrell is ready to lead the university down a successful path.

“Higher education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century is not without its challenges,” says Dr. Cottrell. “Those of us connected to this endeavor must be vigilant to keep our efforts and our institutions relevant, agile and creative. TLU seems to be exactly the kind of place that can flourish in these ways, with excellent faculty and staff serving students as they prepare for their futures by embracing the opportunity to learn boldly and live to inspire.” ■



# NEW FACULTY

## at TLU

Born and raised in McAllen, Texas, **DR. FERNANDO A. GARZA, JR.** is a product of the lower Rio Grande Valley's wonderful mix of American and Mexican culture. Growing up in that area is what Dr. Garza says helped shape his perspectives on beliefs, culture and values. In high school, he knew his calling was to be a teacher. He went on to receive a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of Texas at Austin and his Ph.D. in international business and management from the University of Texas Pan American. He comes to Texas Lutheran University from the University of Louisiana at Monroe. Prior to his four years in Monroe, he spent three years teaching at the University of Houston at Victoria. A research enthusiast, he especially enjoys the fields of social media, international business, entrepreneurship, supply chain management, ethnic and minority studies in business, information systems and organizational behavior. He's an active member of the Southwest Academy of Management, Association for Information Systems, Association for International Business Northeast Chapter, Texas Exes, Lions Club International, Humane Society and United Methodist Church. When he's not spending time with his wife and basset hound Norman, he enjoys traveling, reading, playing bass and guitar and dreams of one day opening a small coffee shop.

San Francisco native **DR. MICHAEL RUANE** joins the Texas Lutheran University science department as an organic chemistry professor. Committed to building on the success of his prior teaching and research efforts, Dr. Ruane holds a Bachelor of Science in chemistry from the University of Arizona and a Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Wyoming. After graduate school, he began teaching at Angelo State University and spent one year as a sabbatical replacement at Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas. He completed a Dreyfus Post-Doctoral Fellowship at Eastern Illinois University and has taught in Wisconsin, Colorado and Nebraska. After spending the past six years in public higher education, he decided to return to Texas and is dedicated to becoming an effective educator at a private institution. Dr. Ruane's research focuses on the development of compounds and techniques to aid in pharmaceutical development. He has previously developed a lead antibiotic compound and is currently working on a long-term project to build cores of other pharmaceutically interesting compounds. He has come back to Texas with his wife, Lisa, and their two children. His family enjoys hiking, biking and sports, as well as reading and cooking. They are looking forward to spending time in the sun and never shoveling snow again.

After four years at Collin College, just north of Dallas, **DR. MARGARET GONZALES** comes to Texas Lutheran University with a passion for guiding students through the process of becoming better critical readers, writers and thinkers. Originally from Chicago, she received her Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) in rhetoric and composition. During her time at UIC, she served as an assistant director of the writing center, as well as the online tutoring coordinator. Currently, Dr. Gonzales is revising her dissertation, "The Other Side of the Digital Divide: Computer and Internet Literacy on the Southeast Side of Chicago," for publication. The thesis is an ethnographic study conducted in the low-income, minority community where she grew up. In addition to composition and rhetoric, she enjoys new media studies, postcolonial British literature, the politics of food production, cooking and spending time with her dogs.

As the Outreach and Information Literacy Librarian, **AMELIA KOFORD** looks forward to helping the Texas Lutheran University community take advantage of the library's physical and digital resources for learning, community and discovery. Professor Koford recently completed a dual master's degree program at the University of Texas at Austin, earning a Master of Science in information studies and a Master of Arts in women's and gender studies. Her research focuses on the relationships between gender, culture and information systems. For her master's thesis, she interviewed disability studies scholars to examine the unique aspects of conducting research in an emerging, interdisciplinary field. During graduate school, she worked in libraries at UT Austin and the Seminary of the Southwest. Professor Koford grew up in Ames, Iowa and attended Grinnell College where she studied English, French and spent a semester abroad in Dakar and Senegal. After college, she spent two years as an AmeriCorps VISTA member at College Forward, an Austin-based nonprofit organization that helps low-income and first-generation students apply for and succeed in college. She coordinated the organization's public relations and developed its first online marketing campaign. She enjoys hike and bike trails, yoga classes and spending time with friends and family.

The addition of Professor **PAM THOMPSON** brings another native Texan to Texas Lutheran University. Born in Abilene and raised in Austin, Professor Thompson worked in advertising at AT&T for 10 years. After leaving AT&T to start a family, she decided to change careers entirely. During that time, Professor Thompson moved from Austin to the Dallas area and enrolled in college for the first time at age 34. She went on to graduate with a master's degree in taxation from the University of Texas at Arlington. She spent several years at a small public accounting firm specializing in tax preparation and taught at a small

business college before coming to TLU. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. Professor Thompson loves reading, baking, art, spending time with her pets and enjoying nice, long walks. She and her husband, Charlie, are excited about relocating to Central Texas where they will be closer to family members.

Originally from Rockwall, Texas, **DR. ERIKA DEIKE** left to pursue a degree in kinesiology at Texas A&M University in College Station. Passionate about exercise and nutrition, she came to appreciate their value as preventative medicine. Following graduation, she became a personal trainer and aerobics instructor at Barton Creek Country Club in Austin. After a six-year career in personal training, she pursued her master's degree at Texas State University (TSU) in San Marcos. After completing student teaching in both elementary and secondary schools, she graduated in May 2006 with a master's in physical education along with an all-level teaching certification. Her time at TSU included working as a graduate assistant in the physical education department where she taught a variety of classes. She earned her Ph.D. in exercise, nutrition and preventative health at Baylor University in Waco where she worked as a research assistant and taught an assortment of classes in health and fitness studies. She then took a position at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview, Texas where she taught for three years in their exercise and sport science department. She joins the Texas Lutheran University kinesiology department with hopes of fulfilling her love for teaching health and fitness and for the opportunity to be closer to family and friends.

Growing up in Oklahoma City, Okla., **DR. HOLLY LUTZE** always knew she wanted to be a teacher. She earned her Bachelor of Science in industrial engineering and engineering management from Oklahoma State University in 1999 and went on to obtain her Master of Science in engineering economic systems and operations research from Stanford University in 2001. In 2004, she received her Ph.D. in management science and engineering also from Stanford. Dr. Lutze comes to TLU from the University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) School of Management where she taught undergraduate, graduate and executive education courses for eight years. Her areas of expertise include operations management, inventory control, logistics and distribution. Always insisting that her students come first, she approaches academia with the goal of continually learning and communicating new knowledge to others. As the daughter of an ELCA pastor, coming to Texas Lutheran University is an honor. Dr. Lutze is thrilled to join TLU and hopes to aid students in developing career paths and building professional connections. She loves bringing industry to students and students to industry. When she's not in the classroom, she enjoys spending time with her husband and their 4-year-old daughter Evelyn. ■



A man with grey hair, wearing a grey button-down shirt and blue jeans, is working on a stained glass project in a workshop. He is using a tool to work on a leaded glass panel that features yellow and green glass pieces. The workshop is filled with various materials, including boxes, shelves, and tools. A large yellow square with a white 'W' is overlaid on the image.

W

hen Matt Grones left his job as the CEO of the South Austin Surgical Center to pursue the art of stained glass making, he was skeptical. However, after an auspicious meeting with Jack Whitworth, owner of Whitworth Stained Glass, and the desire to meet more than just financial needs, Grones took a chance most people would not.

MATT GRONES IS

# Seeing the Light

By Ashlie McEachern

Grones graduated from Texas Lutheran University in 1989 and went on to pursue a master's in healthcare administration. After more than 18 years of working in hospitals and ancillary services, Grones decided to trade in the hospital for an art studio. What started as an interest in the business of stained glass has blossomed into a friendship and professional relationship that have helped Grones find his true calling.

"Although healthcare administration was financially fulfilling, it was not meeting many of my family, emotional and social needs," Grones admits. "Initially there was some skepticism about my desire to leave a career that not only provided for my family, but offered advancement opportunities; but my family has been supportive, allowing me to take this unique fork in the road. Having the support from your family is paramount to achieving success with any new venture."

His days are now spent working alongside Whitworth, former president of The Stained Glass Association of America, learning the intricate craft of stained glass making. Most recently, the two have begun restoring several church windows that were originally built in 1905. Comprised of over 300 individual pieces of glass in 20 sections, one window takes around 60 hours to complete. Each section of glass is cut and soldered together one at a time.

The process is complex and patience is essential. When you have someone as skillful as Whitworth as your mentor, Grones says, you feel so fortunate to learn such leadership and wisdom. Whitworth says Grones brings something special to their work.

"It's been very rewarding to teach Matt," he says. "After 40 years in this business and over 200 classes, Matt brings almost an introspective feel to things. I think how he was brought up and his strong work ethic has made him successful. The biggest part is gaining confidence when working with the glass and respecting it. Matt is certainly learning both of those ideas."

With projects ranging from restaurants and churches to special requests from individual clients, Whitworth's expanding studio shows the demand for this timeless trade. Whitworth's wife Cindy, a self-taught artist, is the chief designer. Her ornate sketches are the foundation for transferring images to the glass. She says while many people are interested in stained glass, most do not take it past a hobby.

"Matt has the patience," she says. "It's always great to teach somebody the art and get them excited about it. There are certainly a lot of hobbyists, but when they see how time-consuming it really is, they just become collectors. It's obvious Matt really enjoys it and it's more than a hobby."

Much like Grones, Jack Whitworth was in an entirely different field when he decided to make his hobby of stained glass into a new career. With a bachelor's degree in business and a master's in systems management, Whitworth says he never imagined 40 years ago that he'd be a full-time stained glass maker.

“my family has been  
supportive, allowing  
me to take this unique  
fork in the road”

"It was a hobby that got out of control," he jokes. "But I've always felt that stained glass speaks to people and the windows tell stories. The beginnings of stained glass were actually to help those who couldn't read understand the stories of the Bible. The windows can be powerful and when you see a client moved to tears because of something you've created, that's truly rewarding."

Preserving the art of stained glass is also at the forefront of their work. Whitworth and Grones hope to launch Texas Stained Glass, a separate venture focusing on pieces featuring the state flag and other Lone Star-themed items.

Grones says stained glass can be rich in both beauty and meaning, and that he and Whitworth will continue to work with clients to create their story while simultaneously blending their own styles. He hopes to pass on everything Whitworth has taught him to others in the future.

He encourages others who are thinking about making a transition into a new vocation to be courageous and to not be afraid of chasing a dream. Grones says sometimes, you need to take that one risk and trust your gut feeling.

"When you do that and you know where you're supposed to be, it's wonderful," Grones says. "To be able to know you're in the right place doing the right thing adds years to your life and life to your years."

*Whitworth Stained Glass is located at 104 Melody Lane in New Braunfels, Texas. For more inquiries, please call 830-214-3370.*





PHOTOS BY DAVID EDMONDSON



TLU student Stephanie Stohr inspects an aircraft at New Braunfels Municipal Airport during a private pilot class.

## Professorship Helps Aviation Program Take Off

Texas Lutheran University's fledgling aviation program received a major boost this summer when alumnus Harold Johnson '40 of Fort Worth established an endowed professorship in aviation and pre-engineering.

The gift, totaling \$500,000, will assist the university in attracting and retaining highly qualified faculty to teach the academic courses that support the recently established aeronautical science and aviation management degrees, says TLU president Dr. Stuart Dorsey.

"There is a need for more highly skilled college graduates in the field of aviation, and we think TLU can help fill that need," says Dorsey. The Harold T. Johnson Endowed Professorship in Aviation and Pre-Engineering will enable us to provide outstanding instruction in these programs and we are most grateful to Mr. Johnson for his generous gift."

Johnson is a retired aeronautical engineer with General Dynamics. The El Campo native received his associate's degree from Texas Lutheran and his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from University of Texas at Austin. He is a pilot and has enjoyed traveling around the world.

A lifelong Lutheran, he is a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Fort Worth.

Johnson established the Harold T. Johnson Endowed Scholarship in 1998 to provide financial assistance to TLU students. He also has provided generous financial support to TLU's Hugo and Georgia Gibson Endowed Professorship Fund. He is a former member of the university's Development Board.

TLU partnered with Integration Innovation, Inc. (i3) to offer the only four-year baccalaureate degrees in aviation within 300 miles of San Antonio that begin and end at the same institution. Many aviation programs have dual enrollments or they are streamlined, offering only a business track or an air traffic control track. Beginning in fall 2011, TLU's program offers a broad range of aviation training from flight training to aviation business management with all classes offered at TLU and flight training offered at New Braunfels Municipal Airport. ■

For more information about aviation at TLU, visit [www.tlu.edu/aviation](http://www.tlu.edu/aviation).

“There is a need for more highly skilled college graduates in the field of aviation, and we think TLU can help fill that need.”

# Coming Home and Providing Hope

By Noel Vella, TLU Executive Director of Development



Frank A. Wilson and Lena D. Coleman-Wilson met with TLU President Dr. Stuart Dorsey to discuss their Endowed Hope Scholarship for promising local African-American high school graduates who want to pursue a college education.

For Lena Coleman-Wilson, coming home to Seguin after retiring from a successful business and philanthropic career in Corpus Christi has been fulfilling. Wilson, following the example of her mother, Seguin native Dovie Sutton, continues to share her blessed life with the Seguin community. “I grew up here, this is my home, and one thing that I was taught by my mother—who raised us by herself—was that no matter where you go, don’t ever forget where you came from. She said ‘Seguin is your home, and if there’s anything that you can do to help others, do it,’” says Wilson.

Lena’s and her husband Frank’s passion for giving back was recently manifested by a \$100,000 gift to TLU from the LC Foundation, Inc., which Lena founded in 1996. The gift will establish the Lena D. Coleman-Wilson and

Frank A. Wilson Endowed Hope Scholarship for deserving African-American students who graduate from Seguin High School and surrounding area schools.

One of Lena’s lifelong endeavors has been providing hope for an education to students who have the potential to excel but need someone to provide the financial support. “Education is the key to success as it provides the opportunity for choices for our young people today,” says Wilson. “We want to help young people who are trying to become educated and independent. That’s what we need more than anything in the world.”

Being able to establish the Hope Endowed Scholarship at TLU for deserving students from their hometown and surrounding area is very satisfying to the Wilsons, whose

families have created a long and lasting legacy in Seguin.

Frank is a descendent of Hiram Wilson, whose family began a pottery business in the Seguin area in 1857, which is widely credited as being the first African-American entrepreneurs in Texas.

To perpetuate that legacy, Lena and Frank are involved with the Wilson Pottery Foundation, whose mission is to research, acquire and preserve the work of the Wilson potters during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Many of the pottery pieces are highly collectible and are displayed in fine arts museums in San Antonio, Austin and Houston. ■





# Acknowledging Donors with New Giving Levels

*The beginning of this fiscal year, June 1, 2012, welcomed a revamping of TLU’s donor recognition program to acknowledge gifts at all giving levels through new annual giving clubs. In addition to these new giving clubs, the President’s Associates Giving Club has been remodeled with new benefits and gift levels. Gifts to TLU will continue to be recognized in the Annual President’s Report.*

*The club names are significant attributes of TLU. Donor gifts and placement in respective clubs exemplify the significant impact gifts make to TLU. For more information, visit [www.tlu.edu/giving/donors](http://www.tlu.edu/giving/donors).*

## ANNUAL GIVING CLUBS:

**CONTRIBUTOR:**

\$1 - \$99

**LUCKY’S CLUB:**

\$100 - \$249

**BLACK AND GOLD CLUB:**

\$250 - \$499

**TORCH CLUB:**

\$500 - \$999

**VICTORY BELL CLUB:**

\$1,000 - \$1,499

**PRESIDENT’S ASSOCIATES**

The designation “President’s Associate” defines a place of high honor at TLU. President’s Associates are donors who provide annual gifts to the university of \$1,500 or more.

**PRESIDENT’S ASSOCIATES FELLOW:**

\$1,500 - \$4,999

**PRESIDENT’S ASSOCIATES LEADER:**

\$5,000 - \$9,999

**PRESIDENT’S ASSOCIATES AMBASSADOR:**

\$10,000 - \$24,999

**PRESIDENT’S ASSOCIATES TRUSTEE:**

\$25,000 - \$99,999

**PRESIDENT’S ASSOCIATES BENEFACTOR:**

\$100,000+

**1891 SOCIETY:**

The 1891 Society honors donors who have contributed \$25,000 or more to Texas Lutheran over the course of their lifetimes. All recognition will be with the explicit consent of the donor. This is a cumulative giving society.

**ADVOCATES CIRCLE:**

\$25,000 - \$99,999

**CENTENNIAL CIRCLE:**

\$100,000 - \$249,999

**PRESIDENTS CIRCLE:**

\$250,000 - \$499,999

**REGENTS CIRCLE:**

\$500,000 - \$999,999

**FOUNDERS CIRCLE:**

\$1,000,000+

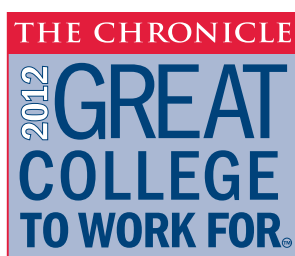
**O.G. BECK SOCIETY**

The O.G. Beck Society recognizes those friends and alumni of Texas Lutheran University who have included TLU in their estate plans.



Centennial Hall opens its doors to its first students this fall.

## newsworthy



### TLU NAMED "GREAT COLLEGES TO WORK FOR" ON FIRST TRY

On Aug. 6, The Chronicle of Higher Education named its "Great Colleges to Work For" and TLU was one of 103 universities to make the list. In its first year of participation, TLU won honors in three categories: collaborative governance, supervisor and department chair relationship, and confidence in senior leadership. "Our campus culture is one of our most important assets so beginning last year, we set a goal to become a Great College to Work For," says TLU President Dr. Stuart Dorsey. "That became a priority and we are proud to have achieved that recognition on our very first try. A campus that is a great place to work is also a great place for students."

### "CENTENNIAL HALL" BECOMES HOME TO NEW FRESHMAN CLASS

A year after the initial groundbreaking ceremony, TLU's new freshman residence hall was officially dedicated and named "Centennial Hall" following Opening Convocation on Aug. 21, the first day of the 2012-13 academic year. Approximately 160 freshmen occupy Centennial Hall which also serves as a true living and learning space equipped with classrooms, meeting rooms, study and computer rooms as well as an outdoor patio, kitchen facility and game room.



### STUDENTS RECOGNIZED FOR ANSWERING CALL TO SERVICE

The Corporation for National and Community Service and the U.S. Department of Education honored the nation's leading colleges and universities for their commitment to bettering their communities through community service and service learning. On its first attempt to be considered for the honor, TLU applied and was admitted to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. Through the Moline Center for Servant Leadership (CSL) and directed by CSL Director Tim Barr, approximately 715 of TLU's 1,400 students participated in a community service activity during the 12-month period ending June 30, 2011. During this time, students volunteered nearly 25,000 community service hours. TLU currently offers more than 20 service-learning courses, an increase of 300 percent over the last three years.



### NEW CONFERENCE, NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Beginning in the fall of 2013, TLU will become the eighth member of the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference (SCAC) as it joins Austin College, Centenary College of Louisiana, Colorado College, University of Dallas, Schreiner University, Southwestern University and Trinity University. TLU is currently a member of the American Southwest Conference (ASC). Both conferences are members of the NCAA Division III.

Thirteen of TLU's 14 intercollegiate sports programs will join the SCAC. Football will play as an independent until the SCAC

has enough football members to qualify for the automatic post season bid that goes to NCAA Division III conference champions. Trinity and Austin College are the only SCAC members that currently field football teams, with Southwestern slated to launch a football program in 2013.

"TLU is committed to fielding a football program that will compete for the national championship," says TLU President Dr. Stuart Dorsey. "We anticipate that the SCAC will eventually reach the minimum number of seven football-playing schools so that the conference champion automatically qualifies for post season play, but until then we will build a competitive schedule against regional and national opponents that we think will get us to that level."



Karen Norman delivers commencement address at the May 2012 graduation ceremony.

### TLU ALUMNA, FORMER REGENT RECEIVES HONORARY DEGREE

Karen Norman, alumna and former chair of the TLU Board of Regents, delivered the address to the class of 2012 at TLU's spring commencement ceremony in May and was also presented with TLU's highest honor — the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, Honoris Causa, for her many years of dedication and service to her alma mater. "During Karen's tenure, she was instrumental in strengthening the Board through the recruitment of engaged and influential new members and in increasing TLU's profile through her personal advocacy of the university, especially in the San Antonio area. I also want to personally thank Karen and her family for their generous financial support that includes major gifts to our scholarship endowment fund and significant capital improvement projects. Karen exemplifies the TLU mission to 'Learn Boldly' and 'Live to Inspire,'" says TLU President Dr. Stuart Dorsey. ■



# scoreboard

## WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

Texas Lutheran sophomore sprinter **MONIQUE ANDERSON** collected two All-America honors at the 2012 NCAA Division III Outdoor Track & Field Championships in Claremont, Calif.

Anderson placed fifth in the 200-meter dash and joined junior **JULIE UDOESSIEN**, senior **DEVIN EVANS**, and sophomore **VANECIA SPENCER** for a sixth-place finish in the 4x100 relay.

In the 200 final, Anderson raced to the line in a time of 24.61 seconds. Anderson's time was just off her school-record time of 24.54. Anderson set the new school mark in the championships preliminary round.

Anderson's fifth-place showing in the 200 final came roughly three hours after racing with the Bulldogs' 4x100 relay team. The Bulldogs finished sixth in a time of 47.35 seconds.



Monique Anderson races to the line in the 100-meter dash at the NCAA Division III Championships in Claremont, Calif.

All four Bulldogs earned All-American honors with the sixth-place finish. The top eight teams or individual finishers in all NCAA finals earn All-America status.

TLU junior **LIGIA BOLIVAR** finished 10<sup>th</sup> in the pole vault with a season-best clearance of 12 feet, 1.50 inches. Bolivar entered the championships seeded 20<sup>th</sup>.

Bulldog senior **DESTINEY JONES** finished 10<sup>th</sup> in the triple jump with a leap of 38-7.50. She just missed the finals of the triple jump. The top nine advance to the finals and take three more jumps.

TLU finished 40th in the women's final team standings. The Bulldogs scored seven total points (four in the women's 200 and three in the women's 4x100 relay).

on April 13. Orosey went eight innings in the 6-1 victory over Hardin-Simmons.

Orosey concluded his TLU career with a record of 32-6 and an ERA of 2.86.

A two-time All-American and two-time ASC West Pitcher of the Year, Orosey also set the ASC record for career strikeouts, with 332. He played on two ASC West Division Championships and was the staff ace on four ASC Baseball Championship Tournament Series teams.

Orosey was named the TLU Male Student-Athlete of the Year for 2009-10 and for 2011-12. He was the conference runner-up for 2011-12 Male Athlete of the Year.

Freshman shortstop Ashley Jacobsen hit .455 in the 2012 season and set new ASC and TLU single-season hitting records.

## BASEBALL

Senior right-hander **BRAD OROSEY** set new Texas Lutheran and American Southwest Conference records for career wins and claimed 2012 ASC West Pitcher of the Year honors.

Orosey, a Houston native, shares the TLU career record of 32 wins with Ron Churchman (1988-91). Orosey posted his 32<sup>nd</sup> career win with a complete-game, 3-hit shutout of Concordia Texas on April 20.

For the conference wins record, Orosey moved past University of Texas at Tyler's Blake Booher with the 31<sup>st</sup> career win



Senior pitcher Brad Orosey ended his Bulldog baseball career as the all-time wins leader in the ASC. He tied the TLU career wins mark.

PHOTO BY PATRICK ZARATE

PHOTO BY PATRICK ZARATE





TLU senior place-kicker Allen Cain has been named to two preseason All-American football squads.

In 2012, Orosey went 8-3 with an ERA of 1.78. He pitched 81.1 innings and struck out 74. He tossed two complete games and held opponents to a .212 batting average.

## SOFTBALL

Texas Lutheran freshman shortstop **ASHLEY JACOBSEN** was named the 2012 American Southwest Conference West Division Newcomer of the Year.

Jacobsen, a Marion product, won the American Southwest Conference batting title with a .455 average. Jacobsen set single-season TLU records for hits per game (1.51) and for runs per game (1.02). Her run total of 39 was one off the overall school record of 40. She also stole 19 bases.

In the season-ending series with Sul Ross State, Jacobsen was 10-for-13 (.769) with 14 RBI, two doubles, a triple, and a three-run home run. She also stole three bases and finished the series with an on-base percentage of .813.

Jacobsen's six RBI in game two of the opening doubleheader tied the school record for RBI in a single game. Jacobsen shares the record with Amy Behlen, who drove in six against Sul Ross in 2003.

The 14 RBI for Jacobsen set a new TLU school record for RBI in a four-game series.

TLU, under first-year head coach **WADE WILSON**, went 19-19 overall in 2012. The Bulldogs were 13-11 in the ASC West. The Bulldogs tied for third in the division and lost a tiebreaker for the third and final conference tournament spot from the ASC West.

## MEN'S GOLF

Texas Lutheran senior **CHRIS HYTEN** won two tournaments during the 2012 spring season. Hyten won the Mississippi College Invitational and the Schreiner Spring Shootout in back-to-back weeks. Hyten was named the ASC Men's Golfer of the Week after each victory.

A four-year letterman for the Bulldogs, Hyten was a 2011 NCAA Division III Second Team All-American after finishing 16<sup>th</sup> at the 2011 national tournament. He played a key role in TLU's third-place finish at the 2011 NCAA Championships. The third-place showing remains the best showing by an American Southwest Conference school at the NCAA Division III Men's Golf Championships.

## FOOTBALL

This summer All-American place-kicker **ALLEN CAIN** picked up two preseason First Team All-American Awards and learned he is on the "Watch List" for the 2012 Fred Mitchell Outstanding Place-Kicker Award.

Cain, a senior from San Antonio, received preseason First Team All-America honors from D3football.com and from Beyond Sports College Network.

Cain was a Fred Mitchell Award finalist in 2011. The Fred Mitchell Award is presented to the top Football Championship Subdivision (FCS), NCAA Division II, NCAA Division III, NAIA, or NCAA place-kicker that excels on the football field and in the community.

Cain, a mathematics and computer science major with a 3.505 GPA, was named to four playing All-America teams and to the Capital One First Team Academic All-America Team following the 2011 season. Cain was a First Team All-American by Beyond Sports College Network, American Football Coaches Association and D3football.com. He was named Second Team AP Little All-American.

In 2011, Cain became the first student-athlete in TLU history to claim four playing All-American honors and an Academic All-American® award in the same season. He is the first TLU football player to claim First Team All-American and First Team Academic All-American® honors in the same season.

Last season, Cain led all of NCAA Division III in field goals made (17) and in field goals made per game (1.70). Cain's 17 field goals this year set American Southwest Conference and TLU single-season records.

## TENNIS

The Texas Lutheran women's tennis team has been named an Intercollegiate Tennis Association All-Academic Team for NCAA



PHOTO BY RACHEL SCHAFER

Division III. The ITA All-Academic Team is award to teams that post a cumulative team GPA of 3.20 or above on a 4.0 scale.

In addition, TLU players **JESSICA FLAYER**, **JENNIFER KOEPP**, **SHYLA TATSCH**, **ALEXANDRIA TREVINO**, and **CAITLIN ZARR** received ITA Scholar-Athlete status. Individual award winners must be a varsity letter winner, have a GPA of at least 3.50 on a 4.0 scale for the current academic year, and be enrolled at the school for at least two semesters.

Two TLU men's tennis players — **ELI VON BERG** and **DAVID SCHNEIDER** — also met the requirements for the ITA Scholar-Athlete award.

In tennis recruiting news, the TLU women's tennis program received votes in the TennisRecruiting.net poll for Top 25 NCAA Division III Recruiting Classes. The list was released May 21 and was based on commitments reported on or before May 21.

In the 2011-12 season, the TLU women's tennis team produced an overall record of 7-9 with an ASC West Division mark of 2-4. Last season, the women's team snapped a 36-match losing streak and posted the program's most wins since 2005-06, when the Bulldogs won 11 times.

The TLU men's tennis also continued its improvement in 2011-12. The Bulldogs went 8-7 overall and 3-3 in the ASC West. The Bulldogs tied for third in the division and lost a three-way tiebreaker formula for the ASC West's final conference tournament spot.

The 2011-12 TLU tennis season also produced a total of eight ASC West Division playing honors (five for the men, three for the women), five ASC Academic All-Conference honors (four for the men, one

PHOTO BY TIM CLARK



Senior Jessica Flayer and the TLU women's tennis team produced a remarkable turn-around season in 2012.





Roxanne Long resigned as head women's basketball coach. Assistant Coach Mel Dixon has been named interim head coach.

and two ASC Distinguished Scholar-Athletes (**DAVID SCHNEIDER** and **JESSICA FLAYER**).

The Bulldogs also celebrated an ASC West Women's Tennis Co-Freshman of the Year Award (**CAITLIN ZARR**) and an ASC Female Community Service Award (**YVONNE CASTILLO**).



Mel Dixon, interim head coach women's basketball.

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

**MEL DIXON** is the interim head coach for women's basketball after the July 2 departure of TLU head women's basketball coach **ROXANNE LONG**, who accepted the head women's coaching position at Rogers State (Okla.).

Dixon has been a TLU women's basketball assistant coach with Long for the past two seasons. Dixon had successful high school

coaching stints in the San Antonio area at Robert E. Lee High School and at Theodore Roosevelt High School. He produced an overall coaching record of 514-289 at the high school level.

Long coached TLU for four seasons, from 2008-09 to 2011-12. She took over a program that was 1-49 in the two seasons prior to her arrival. Long won 19 games with the Bulldogs in her first two seasons and was named the American Southwest Conference West Division Co-Coach of the Year for the 2008-09 season.

"TLU is a very genuine place filled with great people," said Long. "It has been a pleasure to be a part of the TLU community and to coach the Bulldogs. I greatly appreciate the trust that the university and (Director of Athletics) Bill Miller placed in me four years ago. I will miss TLU and wish the Bulldogs nothing but success."

In the fall of 2008, Coach Long inherited a TLU women's basketball program coming off a 0-25 campaign. The Bulldogs with Long won seven games in 2008-09. The one-year improvement was the 11<sup>th</sup>-best turn-around in NCAA Division III for that season.

In 2009-10, the Bulldogs continued to improve, posting a 12-12 overall record and an 11-10 mark in the ASC. The Bulldogs posted a winning record in the ASC for the first time since joining the conference for the 2000-01 season. The Bulldogs also snapped a streak of losing seasons (10) that dated back to the 1999-2000 campaign. ■

**By Tim Clark,**  
Director of Sports Information  
and Sports Marketing

## BY THE NUMBERS

**1**  
Earned runs in conference play allowed by All-American closer **SEAN KISTLER** during the 2012 baseball season. He allowed three all season and posted a season ERA of 0.91.

**1**  
Number of career hits for baseball player **JENNINGS BOOTHE** before he delivered a walk-off single in the 12<sup>th</sup> inning to defeat Hardin-Simmons on April 14.

**2**  
ASC Women's Track Athlete of the Year awards won by **MONIQUE ANDERSON** in her first two collegiate seasons. In 2012, Anderson repeated the 2011 titles she won in the 100 and the 200.

**3**  
Consecutive American Southwest Conference Women's Track & Field Championships won by the Bulldogs. TLU finished 11.5 points in front of McMurry to win the 2012 crown.

**7**  
Win-total improvement in 2012 for the TLU Women's Tennis Team. The Bulldogs snapped a 36-match losing streak and posted the sixth-best, single-season team wins total in school history.

**8**  
Margin in feet that senior **BROOKE BASEY** won the 2012 ASC javelin title. Basey won the third individual conference title of her career (two javelin crowns and a win in the 3,000 steeplechase).

**10**  
Varsity letters earned by Basey. The Buda native lettered four years in three sports (women's volleyball, women's cross country and women's track & field).

**14**  
RBI for softball shortstop **ASHLEY JACOBSEN** in a four-game series sweep of Sul Ross State. Jacobsen, the ASC West Newcomer of the Year, won the ASC's batting title and set the TLU single-season batting average record by hitting .455.

**20**  
Number of TLU student-athletes, student athletic trainers, and student sports information workers named to the ASC's 2011-12 Winter/Spring All-Academic Honor Roll.

# alumnotes

## 1965

**ROBERT WESTLING '65** has retired from the federal government after over 36 years of service. He has spent the past 11 years mostly working with supply and recruitment for the Border Patrol.

## 1970

**FRED BIERY '70** who is the West Texas chief federal judge was named 2012 Jurist of the Year by the Texas chapters of American Board of Trial Advocates (TEX-ABOTA). The national board is made up of over 6,000 members, who can only join by invitation, with Texas having 16 chapters and more than 1,000 members.

## 1971

**KATHIE (BOYD) ZIPF '71** and her husband Dan celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in July 2011. The loving couple has four grown sons and five grandchildren. After 14 years of teaching K-8 music at St. Joan of Arc School in Hershey, Pa. Kathie retired in June 2010. In August 2011 she was called back to serve as an aide in the pre-kindergarten class and she loves it.

## 1974

**LAEL CORDES-PITTS '74** was honored this past fall by the Uptown Midland Business Professional Women as the 2011 Woman of Achievement. She also accepted a new position as executive director of The Henry Foundation in Midland after serving for over 26 years in the same position at Casa de Amigos,

a local nonprofit social service agency. The agency's Board of Directors honored Lael at a reception in February and will name a stained glass window in the agency's facility, the Mabee Eastside Community Center, in her honor.

## 1975

**JAMES KIRK '75** retired after 35 years as a choral director. He is currently the varsity boys' basketball coach at Flagstaff High School in Flagstaff, Ariz.

## 1978

**JAMES "MICHAEL" ANDERSON '78** won in a landslide during the GOP primary for District Attorney in Harris County, Texas. He will face a Democratic challenger in the general election this November.

## 1979

**REV. CHARLES (LARRY) COVINGTON '79** was elected as president of the Board of Directors of the Texas Conference of Churches for a two-year term. Rev. Covington is a 2005 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient and is currently the pastor of St. Louis Catholic Church in Austin, as well as the Director of Ecumenism and Inter-Faith Relations for the RC Diocese of Austin.

## 1980

**JEFF CERMIN '80** will serve as Blinn College's interim vice president of administrative services as of July 1, 2012. He has been with Blinn for 11



Four generations of a TLU family gather for the TLU vs. Wharton Junior College game in February 2012. From left to right: Randy Brunnemann '85 played on baseball team; Savannah (Heidi Streng) Brunnemann '86 played tennis; Prof. Emeritus Evelyn Fiedler Streng; Clarie Renslo Streng Broste '53 participated in band and choir; Chase Brunnemann, first base scholarship recipient and Wharton Junior College freshman.

years working in the accounting and business offices on both its Brenham and Bryan campuses. Prior to coming to Blinn, he spent 17 years in the banking industry.

## 1981

**SARAH ZIMMERMANN '81** retired from teaching on May 31, 2012. She taught at public schools in Splendora, New Caney, and Burton, Texas.

## 1991

**JEFF DAVID '91** and his wife Becky of St. Louis, Mo. proudly welcomed into the world their third son Cole Walter on Sept. 7, 2011. Cole joins his older brothers Carter and Owen (photo below).

**MARK ETHEREDGE '91** has been elected to the Lutheran Social Services of the South (LSS) Board of Directors. Selection for the LSS Board is based on demonstrated interest, expertise and involvement in serving

LSS through its social ministries, and carrying out its mission of providing help. He is senior vice president at Nationstar Mortgage with more than 18 years of experience in financial, technology and project management.

**PATRICIA "PATTY" (MERRIWETHER) '91** and **STERN "STERNO" HATCHER '92** own and operate Hatcher Photography in Austin and plan to launch Photo Studio Operations also in Austin. Patty took a full-time position as faculty lead of Austin Community College's Humanities Division in August 2011 and is also co-lead faculty of record for the Free Mind Program in Austin.

## 1992

**MICHAEL KOHLEFFEL '93** along with his wife have recently purchased Rockport Tours in Corpus Christi. Check out their business at [rockporttours.com](http://rockporttours.com) or on Facebook.



Carter and Owen David proudly sit with their new brother Cole.



## 1994

**WHITNEY (THURMAN) CARGILL '94** and her husband John along with big sister Savannah Jewel welcomed a new addition into the family. Suzannah Thurman Cargill was born on March 21, 2011 at 7:57 p.m. She weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces and was 20.25 inches long. The family resides in Kyle, Texas.



Kendall Prinz accepted a position at Northwest Missouri State University.

## 1996

**KENDALL PRINZ '96** recently accepted a faculty position as assistant professor of low brass and instrumental music education at Northwest Missouri State University. His responsibilities will include teaching the trombone, euphonium, and tuba studio, as well as teaching several courses in the music education curriculum. Kendall is leaving his position of seven years at Taylor Middle School in Texas and will be relocating his family to Maryville, Mo. in late July 2012.

## 1999

**VANCE BLACKFOX '99** was appointed new director of Youth in Mission at The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago in June 2012. Vance has served as director of youth ministries in congregations in Chicago, California and Texas. He has also led mission and cultural immersion programs to sites in the U.S., Palestine, Mexico and Zimbabwe.



Carter and Cash Koehler, born Sept. 6, 2001.

## 2000

**DEVIN KOEHLER '00** would like to announce that his beautiful wife, Julia, carried for 37 weeks before delivering twin boys on Sept. 6, 2011. They were blessed to welcome Carter Lane 6 pounds, 14 ounces (pictured above left) and Cash Landon 7 pounds, 1 ounce (right).

**MARIO '00 AND ANDREA RODRIGUEZ** welcomed their second daughter Sophia Gentry Rodriguez on Jan. 2, 2012. Mario was also recognized by the Kohler Company as 2011 Rookie of the Year for the Plumbing North Americas group.

## 2003

**ASHLEY MATTHEWS '03** is excited to announce that she completed her Juris Doctor from the University of Virginia School of Law in May 2012. In September she will begin work for McGuire Woods law firm in Charlottesville, Va.

## 2004

**MARINA "MIMI" VELJANOVSKA '04** is currently working as a legal consultant for the World Bank. She will begin a legal clerkship with the Superior Court in the District of Columbia in September 2012.

## 2005

**KATE (HALLFORD) JOHNSON '05** and husband Dwight welcomed their first child into the world on June 12, 2012 named Sawyer Elizabeth Johnson. They both are in love with their baby girl.

**MEGAN (FIELDEN) LINGO '05** and her husband Randall are the proud parents of Luke Christopher Lingo born on March 8, 2011. Luke weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces and was 20 inches long.

**MELISSA (WICK) TROST '05** and Joel Trost would like to announce the birth of their second son, Cason. He was born Febr. 9, 2012 in San Antonio and weighed 6 pounds, 13 ounces and was 20.5 inches long. He was welcomed

by his very proud big brother Rylan. The family resides near San Antonio.

## 2006

**KELI RABON '06** is on the move again. Less than a year as chief investigative reporter at KVUE-24 News in Austin, she will head to Denver, Colo. Keli joins the prestigious investigative reporting team at KMGH-7, the Mile-High City's ABC affiliate. Denver is the nation's 17th largest market. While a reporter at WLOX in Biloxi, Miss. Rabon won a national Edward R. Murrow Award, one of the highest honors in broadcast journalism, for a story she broke on foreclosed homes that were used for meth labs.



Howard Crunk at work on his native birds of Seguin collection.

## 2007

**HOWARD CRUNK '07**, local artist and sculptor, continues his work on larger-than-life renderings of Seguin's native birds in the park. The collection of birds he and others are making will be installed as part of the Walnut Springs Park Bird Sculpture Sanctuary during the summer of 2012 (picture on page 33).

## 2008

**JONATHAN BERTSCH '08** recently relocated to Alexandria, Va. and began working at the Washington Headquarters Services Department of Defense as a contract specialist.

## 2010

**JENNA DAVISSON '10** was named assistant athletic media relations director with University of North Carolina at Pembroke after having served as an intern since 2010. Her duties include overseeing media relations for men's soccer, softball, and men's and women's cross country and track and field. She also serves as the producer for the Black and Gold Report, a weekly coaches show that airs locally and draws more than 7,000 viewers each week. She was also awarded her master's degree in physical education from UNCP and finished the program with a 4.0 GPA and graduated summa cum laude in May 2012.

**MARIAH KILBOURNE '10** was named Ms. Wheelchair Texas 2012. She competed against nine other women from across the state for

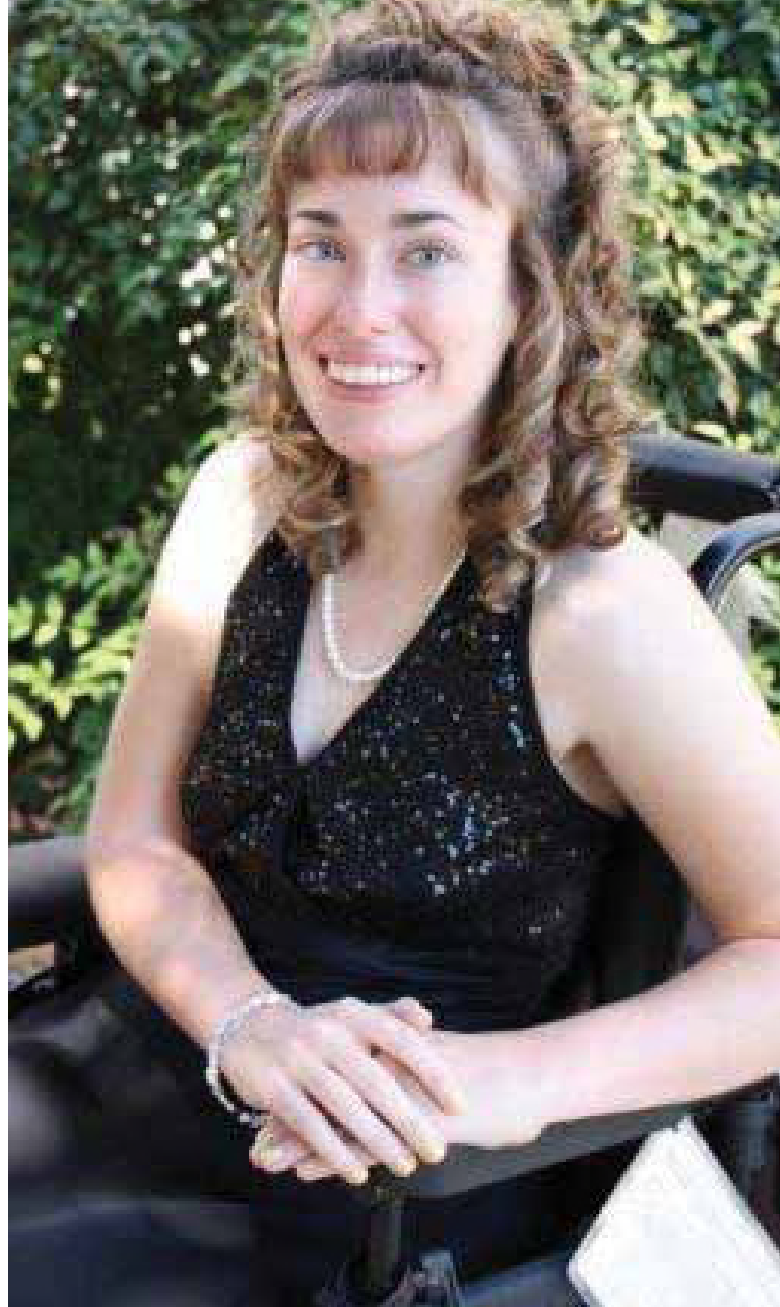
the honor. The Miss Wheelchair Texas Foundation is a nonprofit organization that strives to improve the lives of people with disabilities through its mission of advocacy and education. Mariah says she is grateful for the opportunity to serve a one-year term as an advocate for Texans with disabilities. After advancing to the national competition in Rhode Island in August, she was crowned 2013 Ms. Wheelchair America.

## 2011

**ISAAC GONZALEZ '11** and his wife Brandi are happy to celebrate two years of marriage in May 2012 and their one-year-old baby boy Gideon.

**NAVY SEAMAN KIRA LEA CRAWFORD '11** completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. in May 2012. During the eight-week program, Crawford completed a variety of training, which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety.

**CALEB HOFFMANN '11** is now assistant band director and drum instructor for La Vernia High School. He is grateful for all the support he received from people at TLU like Beth Bronk, Melissa Townsend, Mary Ellen Cavitt, and Doug Boyer, to name a few. He is looking forward to starting a new life with soon-to-be wife Dani Lane.



Maria Kilbourne was recently named Ms. Wheelchair Texas 2012 and 2013 Ms. Wheelchair America.

## 2012

**VICTORIA HOPPE '12** attended the ELCA Youth Ministry Network Extravaganza in New Orleans this past February. Pictured in the photo below are many TLU faces including alumni; current

students; campus pastor Greg Ronning; director of corporate, foundations and church relations Sam Ehrlich '99; and professor Heather Hansen who were also in attendance.







Fifty years ago, in the fall of 1962, the women in this picture moved into the east wing of Clifton Hall as freshmen at Texas Lutheran College. Since that time, they have continually circulated a Round Robin letter among themselves.

In June 2012, they gathered at Somerset House in Princess Anne, Maryland, a bed and breakfast owned by Jay and Deborah Scheidt Parker. This was the seventh reunion of the group, but the first time that they were all able to attend (One of the group, Jeannie Glasson Voigt, is deceased). Pictured are: (bottom row from left) Shirley Kasper Hormuth, Gayle Dittmar Reed, Deborah Scheidt Parker; (middle row) Becky Eilers Heideman, Susan Kokemoor Schuman, Jane Briggs-Wise, Karen Geistweidt Spaeth; (standing) Beverly Kiel Hoffman and Carole Zoch Sandoval. ■

## REMEMBERING

### *Friends of TLU*

**FRIEDA BADE** passed away on March 2, 2012 at the age of 93. She was the widow of Heinie Bade who served on the TLU Board of Regents and Development Board. Her family established the Bade Endowed Scholarship. Frieda and Heinie were both active members of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Cuero.

**VIVIAN V. BERGSTROM** passed away on May 18, 2012 at the age of 100. Her family established the Bergstrom Endowed Scholarship. Vivian was born in Ohio, but spent a majority of her life in Texas. She lived in Seguin for the last 22 years and was an active member of Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church.

**VIRGINIA MAE PRANGE BURNS** of Friendswood, Texas passed away on March 1, 2012. Virginia and her husband Martin were co-chairs of the first Texas Lutheran College Parents' Organization in the 1970s. She and Martin were

awarded the TLU Distinguished Church Service award in 2003. Virginia's three daughters and their husbands—Carol and David Welsch, Karen and Glynn Bloomquist, and Kay and Freddie Steinkamp—are all TLU alumni. The family established the Burns Endowed Scholarship.

**BARBARA JO BOWEN CORNELIUS** of Alice, Texas passed away on May 27, 2012. She was the widow of Lawrence Cornelius, who served as Chair of the TLU Board of Regents from 1992 to 1999, and was a member of the Board from 1982-2000. She and Lawrence were faithful and generous friends of TLU during their lifetimes. Their family established the B.G. and Lenora Cornelius Endowed Scholarship.

**ANNIE PATTERSON**, spouse of TLU Professor of Biology Emeritus **IRVIN PATTERSON**, passed away on May 18, 2012 at the age of 80. She was a Licensed

Vocational Nurse and worked at the Seguin Convalescent Home for 27 years where she was loved and respected by her patients, peers and co-workers. Family was always her first priority and her loving attitude spread to those even outside of her family.

**JUDGE B.B. SCHRAUB** passed away on June 7, 2012 at the age of 84. Judge Schraub served for two decades as presiding judge of the 26-county Third Administrative Judicial Region. Before that he had his own law practice in Seguin, and served as municipal court judge, Guadalupe County's first county court-at-law judge, county judge, district attorney, and 25th district judge. He and his late wife, Stella, established the Schraub Endowed Scholarship at TLU.

**RICHARD J. "DICK" SNOW** of Mansfield, Texas passed away on Feb. 14, 2012 at the age of 84. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He and his wife

embraced the Lutheran church later in life and funded several scholarships at TLU.

**HANNAH VIOLA BEATRICE ROLF SUMNER** of Kenedy, Texas passed away on May 1, 2012 at the age of 94. She had many of years of experience in nursing and was a longtime friend of TLU. Her family established the Sumner Memorial Endowed Scholarship. She loved staying busy with her family, the church, and civic and volunteer services, especially serving the Red Cross.

**ORIET FADAL THOMPSON** of Clifton, Texas passed away on Jan. 31, 2012 at the age of 99. She was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church and enjoyed spending time doing community and church work. Her love of music was reflected in her leadership of the children's choir at church. Her family established the Thompson Endowed Scholarship.

# IN MEMORIAM

## TLU Alumni

### 1937

**FAYE BERGMAN HELTON '37** passed away March 10, 2012 at the age of 95. She attended Clifton College. Faye attended First Lutheran Church of San Marcos and was an active community volunteer.

**CLARA JUBELA '37** passed away on March 6, 2012 at the age of 95. She taught in Seguin schools for 36 years and was a member of Emanuel's Lutheran Church. She will be remembered for her love of travel, volunteering, and the San Antonio Spurs.

### 1938

**AUGUST LEOPOLD WOLFF SR. '38** passed away on Feb. 13, 2012 at the age of 93. While at Texas Lutheran, he was a member of the choir. He retired from First National Bank of Giddings in 1982 after 35 years of service, and was active in numerous organizations including the American Legion, Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club and Martin Luther Lutheran Church.

### 1939

**ALTON M. PAGEL '39** passed away on May 12, 2012 at the age of 92. He worked at Randolph Air Force Base for several years, and served in the Army from 1944-1946. He later started his own construction and contracting business in Seguin, and was a supervisor of construction for Alamo Lumber Company and Eagle Lumber Company in Eagle Pass, Texas.

### 1942

**DOROTHY FRUEH GEIGER '42** of San Marcos passed away on March 21, 2012 at the age of 88. While at Texas Lutheran she participated in choir. She was an elementary school teacher for 40 years before retiring in 1990. She was an active member of Grace Lutheran Church where she was a member of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

### 1944

**REV. DR. REGINALD HENRY HOLLE '44** of Okemos, Mich. passed away April 5, 2012 at the age of 86. While at Texas Lutheran he participated in choir and campus ministry. His sister, Bernadine (Holle) Behring is also a TLU graduate, class of 1949. Pastor Holle served parishes in Ohio and Michigan for 29 years. First elected in 1978, he served as a Bishop, first of the Michigan District of The American Lutheran Church, then of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America until his retirement in 1995. He was a recipient of the TLU Distinguished Alumni Award.

### 1945

**DORIS NEUHAUS WILLIS '45** of Dallas, Texas passed away on Jan. 26, 2012. After graduating from TLU, Doris went on to study at the University of Texas, where she was very involved in the Lutheran Students Association. She served on the TLU Development Board from 1988-2009. The Doris Neuhaus Willis Scholarship was established to honor the love and commitment she had towards the continuation of education and the wonderful memories she had of TLU.

### 1946

**REV. HENRY K.G. FLATHMANN '46** passed away on Nov. 18, 2011. While at Texas Lutheran he participated in choir and played basketball. He was ordained into the ministry of the American Lutheran Church on June 10, 1951 and retired in 1988 after 37 years of full-time service. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during WWII, and flew missions in the European Theatre of Operations for 34 months.

**REV. LESLIE W. HUEBNER '46** of Olympia, Wash. passed away on Sept. 6, 2011 at the age of 85. While at Texas Lutheran he participated in choir and campus ministry. He served as an Air Force chaplain, and later served at Chapel of the Hills in South Dakota and several churches in Texas.

### 1947

**GUY BONNER DICKSON '47** passed away on Feb. 27, 2012 at the age of 90. He served in WWII and received several medals for his service. He also taught school in Lubbock until he retired in the 1970s. He will be remembered for his wonderful sense of humor and being a great storyteller.

**DORIS GERMANN '47** passed away on May 17, 2012 at the age of 84. While at Texas Lutheran, Doris participated in choir. She was the organist at Cross United Church of Christ of Seguin for over 70 years and worked at Starcke Furniture for many years.

**MIGNONETTE FLORINE PRATHO PREUSS '47** passed away on Dec. 19, 2011 at the age of 83. While at Texas Lutheran, Mignonette enjoyed singing with the choir. She was active in several civic organizations, and enjoyed gardening, antiques, cooking, sewing, local history, genealogy and heritage research.

### 1950

**REV. VERNON FRANK RABEL '50** of Weimar, Texas passed away on April 1, 2012 at the age of 83. While at Texas Lutheran he sang in the choir, played saxophone in the band, was a member of Phi Theta Kappa, and served as president of the Lutheran Student Association. He attended Wartburg Seminary and was ordained in 1953. He served Lutheran churches in Austin, Bay City, Galveston, and Weimar.

### 1951

**JOHN LUEDTKE '51** of Pflugerville, Texas passed away on March 20, 2012 at the age of 82. While at Texas Lutheran, John was on the men's basketball team. He was a longtime dairy rancher and farmer in Pflugerville, and a lifetime member of Immanuel Lutheran Church. In his retirement he enjoyed traveling and woodworking. The Luedtkes established the Luedtke Endowed Scholarship at TLU.

### 1952

**BETTY JEAN HEITKAMP '52** of San Antonio passed away May 21, 2012 at the age of 82. She was a member of Kappa Pi Gamma at Texas Lutheran. Betty Jean

was a beloved and proud mother, grandmother, sister and friend. She will be remembered for her love of singing karaoke and sports, especially the San Antonio Spurs and Dallas Cowboys.

**VERNELLE WOEHLE PALMOUR '52** passed away on April 27, 2012 at the age of 80. She was a teacher for 34 years. She was also very active in arts and crafts shows, the Retired Teachers Association, Veterans Affairs and the American Legion.

### 1953

**MARVIN "PETE" H. GRIMM '53** of Woodburn, Oregon passed away on March 31, 2012. While at Texas Lutheran he participated in choir and campus ministry. He was a long time employee of General Foods Corp. Birds Eye Division and later Agri-Pac. He will be remembered as a man of integrity and faith who loved singing in the church choir, telling jokes and having a ready supply of chocolate.

### 1956

**WILLIAM SUDDOTH "BUDDY" WILLIAMSON, JR. '56** passed away on May 26, 2012. He was a descendant of the Sowell and Turner families, early settlers of Gonzales and Guadalupe Counties. He played football and tennis while attending Texas Lutheran. He served in both the Army and the Marine Corps.

### 1959

**RUTH ANN HEIDER JOHNSON '59** of Kaneohe, Hawaii passed away Feb. 3, 2012 at the age of 74. She was born in Orange Grove, Texas. She was a former elementary school teacher. She is survived by her husband Rev. Donald K. Heider, three sons and nine grandchildren.

**AZALEA RITA MAYS KONOP '59** passed away on March 22, 2012 at the age of 74. She was known for devoting much time to philanthropy. She was an active member of St. James Catholic Church in Seguin and the Knights of Columbus. Her family was named the Knights of Columbus Council 3412 Family of the Year in 2011.

**KAREN ANN SIMANK WRIGHT '59** passed away on Dec. 12, 2011.



Karen was a member of Kappa Pi Gamma at Texas Lutheran. She loved to dance, play the piano, read and share the Word of God with all those around her. She was married for 51 years to Dr. David J. Wright of Beaumont, Texas and they had two children, Derik Wright and Kami Burnett.

**ROY YOUNG JR. '59** of Magnolia, Texas passed away Feb. 20, 2012 at the age of 76. While at TLU he participated in choir. He worked many years for Spring Branch ISD food services before his retirement in 1992.

### 1961

**DR. CECIL DURHAM JR. '61** of Houston passed away on Jan. 30, 2012. He was a longtime radiologist with the Methodist Healthcare system. He loved to travel the world and had visited all seven continents.

### 1963

**EVERETT "EBBIE" BROWN NEPTUNE JR. '63** of Austin passed away on June 22, 2012. Ebbie played football at Texas Lutheran and was named All-American in 1962. He coached and was an athletic director at Westlake and Eanes ISD for 22 years. In 2004 he was inducted into the Texas High School Athletics Directors Association Hall of Honor. One of Ebbie's most honored moments was in 2002 when the Eanes School Board named their new football field the Ebbie Neptune Field in recognition of his longtime service and dedication.

**PERRY EDWARD WOLKE '63** passed away on June 22, 2011. Perry married his high school sweetheart and had three children. In 1972 the family moved to Houston, where he worked for Whirlpool for 30 years.

### 1966

**RALPH EWALD Klier '66** of College Station passed away on Feb. 19, 2012. He worked as a CPA and retired from Texas A&M University. Ralph was an active member of Peace Lutheran Church, where he often taught Sunday school. He loved to be outdoors, go deer hunting and relax at his cabin in Fredericksburg.

### 1967

**ROBERT "BOB" BRIFFETT '67** of Victoria, Texas passed away on June 10, 2012 after a long fight against cancer. He joined the U.S. Air Force in 1966 and left in the service in 1969 after serving in Vietnam. He then worked for Honeywell Information Systems in Florida before returning to Texas in 1976 where he worked for the USDA/Farm Service Agency, retiring as the County Executive Director of the DeWitt County FSA Office.

### 1969

**ALEJANDRO "ALEX" GUAJARDO '69** of San Antonio passed away Feb. 15, 2012 at the age of 65. Alex played baseball, football and tennis while at Texas Lutheran. He taught and coached for 32 years in Edgewood ISD and San Antonio ISD.

### 1974

**MARGARET LOU THONHOFF HENSLEY '74** passed away on April 25, 2012. Margaret was a member of Beta Alpha Sigma sorority at Texas Lutheran. She was a public school teacher at several Texas schools for 33 years. After her retirement she taught math at Hill Country College for a year, then taught math under a grants program in Kenedy for three years. Margaret was an active member of the Karnes County Retired Teachers Association, the United Methodist church in Karnes City and was an Ambassador for the Texas Folklife Festival.

**HELEN ELIZABETH MURRELL ZIELINSKI '74** of Waco, Texas passed away on Aug. 27, 2011 at the age of 59. Helen was diagnosed with a disease at a young age and was told she wouldn't live past the age of 21. Helen turned out to be a very gifted and talented artist, excelling at graphic design, illustration and painting.

### 1976

**FLORENCE ANNE BEAUCHAMP BRAWNER '76** passed away June 21, 2012 at the age of 79. Anne was the valedictorian of her Seguin High School graduating class in 1951, and received her master's degree in education from Texas State University.

She taught at Texas State University for over 25 years.

### 1977

**CHARLES "ROCKY" B. ELMER '77** of Chicago, Illinois passed away on June 6, 2012. He was a member of Omega Tau fraternity at Texas Lutheran. He served with the Chicago Police Department and the U.S. Marine Corps. He is survived by his widow Barbara Marie Elmer, a 1976 alumna of TLU.

### SHARON RAE SCHWENKER '77

of Taylor, Texas passed away on May 21, 2012. She spent many years working with patients at St. Elizabeth Nursing Home in Waco and Johns Community Hospital in Taylor, where she was named employee of the year in 1998. She was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church, and later Christ Fellowship Church.

### 1981

**DAVID LEE GAINER '81** of Forest Hill, Texas passed away Feb. 2, 2012. David was a retired U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sergeant. While in the Air Force he received a Bronze Star for his service. He will be remembered for being a longtime community activist for gay and human rights, board member of Service Members Legal Defense Network and an active member of Cathedral of Hope.

### 1985

**WILLIAM A. COTTRELL '85** passed away on Jan. 30, 2012. He served our country in the Vietnam War and was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

### 1992

**HEATHER AUSTIN HEIDELOFF '92** of Greenville, Wis. passed away on Feb. 14, 2012. She met the love of her life, Rob Heideloff, while attending Texas Lutheran and they were married in 2002. She enjoyed watching sports, reading, camping, traveling, music and spending time with family and friends.

### 1996

**CARL J. WINKLER '96** passed away on Feb. 12, 2012. He served in the U.S. Air Force for many years before retiring in 1998. He loved biking, running, motorcycling and was an avid fan of the Yankees and the Giants.



# calendar

## HOMECOMING & FAMILY WEEKEND

Sept. 28-29

## KROST SYMPOSIUM

Oct. 1-5

## TLU BAND CONCERT

Oct. 5 at 7:30 p.m.  
Jackson Auditorium

## WATOTO BENEFIT

Oct. 9 at 7 p.m.  
Library Lawn

## GUEST SPEAKER: MICHELE NORRIS

Oct. 18 at 7:30 p.m.  
Jackson Auditorium

## GUEST ARTIST: ARNAUD SUSSMANN, VIOLINIST

Oct. 25 at 7 p.m.  
Ayers Recital Hall, Schuech  
Fine Arts Center

## DRAMATIC MEDIA PRODUCTION: LYSISTRATA

Oct. 26-28

## BOO BASH

Oct. 30 at 6 p.m.  
Baldus & Trinity Halls

## SEGUIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MIXER

Nov. 1 at 5 p.m.  
Fritz House

## EMPTY BOWLS

Nov. 4 at 11 a.m.  
Jackson Park  
Student Activity Center

## TLU BAND CONCERT

Nov. 16 at 7:30 p.m.  
Jackson Auditorium

## FAIR TRADE AND GLOBAL GIFTS FAIR

Nov. 30 at 10:30 a.m.  
Alumni Student Center

## CHRISTMAS VESPERS

Nov. 30-Dec. 2  
Jackson Auditorium

## POLAR BULLDOG SWIM

Dec. 6 at 3 p.m.  
Mabee Pool

## CHRISTMAS VESPERS IN AUSTIN

Dec. 9 at 4 p.m.  
St. Martin's Lutheran Church

## MID-TEXAS SYMPHONY CONCERT

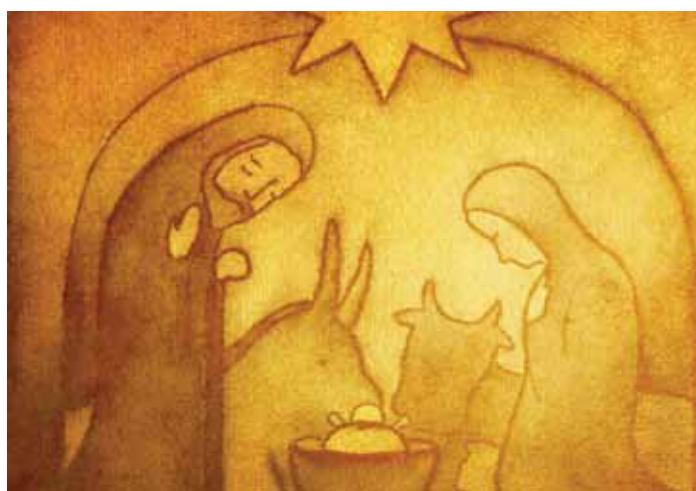
Dec. 9 at 4 p.m.  
Jackson Auditorium

## WINTER BACCALAUREATE

Dec. 15 at 10:30 a.m.  
Chapel of the Abiding Presence

## WINTER COMMENCEMENT

Dec. 15 at 3 p.m.  
Jackson Auditorium



**CHRISTMAS VESPERS** tickets will be released Nov. 1 at [www.tlu.edu/vespers](http://www.tlu.edu/vespers) and through the TLU bookstore. Tickets are free, but required.

*Don't miss this unforgettable annual event!*



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WEAR IT FOR WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES. SPIRIT LIVES HERE.



Hidden in the tree is a squirrel that serves as a reminder of the friendly and charming campus

The Chapel of the Abiding Presence-Weinert Memorial, dedicated in 1954

Texas Lutheran University

The seal represents the centrality of the Lutheran tradition in the academic and spiritual life of the University

The cross, heart, and petals of the "Luther Rose" symbolize the innocent death of Christ

The five points of the "Lone Star" represent the university's Texas location

The year 1891 reminds us of Texas Lutheran's founding history

The olive leaves show the importance that TLU places on helping every student reach their full potential and achieve excellence

The book represents academics and signifies, by its open cover, the many ways TLU helps its students attain success

Graduation year

Lucky, the university mascot, is a symbol of pride and tenacity

The Victory Bell represents tradition and school spirit

The flame is a free-flowing mark without beginning or end, denoting that education and a life of leadership and service is an ongoing process

The three areas of the flame symbolize TLU's academic, spiritual, and social approach to education



Get your official Texas Lutheran University class ring at [www.balfour.com](http://www.balfour.com).